

# **For Reference**

---

**NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS ROOM**



Ex LIBRIS  
UNIVERSITATIS  
ALBERTAENSIS





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2023 with funding from  
University of Alberta Library

<https://archive.org/details/Gagnon1982>













THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

RELEASE FORM

NAME OF AUTHOR            Lawrence G. Gagnon  
TITLE OF THESIS           Structural Geology of the Luscar-Sterco Mine,  
                                 Coal Valley, Alberta  
DEGREE FOR WHICH THESIS WAS PRESENTED    Master of Science  
YEAR THIS DEGREE GRANTED    Spring 1982

Permission is hereby granted to THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY to reproduce single copies of this thesis and to lend or sell such copies for private, scholarly or scientific research purposes only.

The author reserves other publication rights, and neither the thesis nor extensive extracts from it may be printed or otherwise reproduced without the author's written permission.







THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Structural Geology of the Luscar-Sterco Mine, Coal Valley, Alberta

by



Lawrence G. Gagnon

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF Master of Science

IN

Geology

Department of Geology

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Spring 1982





THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a thesis entitled Structural Geology of the Luscar-Sterco Mine, Coal Valley, Alberta submitted by Lawrence G. Gagnon in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Geology.





## Abstract

In a 55 km<sup>2</sup> area in the outer Rocky Mountain Foothills of west-central Alberta, data from some 260 outcrops and 1900 drillholes were analyzed. Coding systems for collecting both data types proved to be very efficient. The coded data were stored, retrieved and processed using a Fortran computer package for structural analysis.

Strata at Coal Valley belong to the Coalspur beds of uppermost Cretaceous to Paleocene age which lie between the Brazeau and Paskapoo Formations in the Saunders Group. Structural analysis was restricted to a 300 m thick coal zone in the upper portion of the Coalspur beds. The zone contains seven coal seams and five other traceable marker horizons of which the most important are the Mynheer and the Val D'or coal seams.

Regionally the study area lies just southwest of the Alberta Syncline. Strata in the coal zone lie in duplexes between bedding plane thrusts, are cut by southwest and northeast-dipping thrusts and transverse ramps, and are gently folded.

Northeast-verging bedding plane thrusts within the Mynheer, Wee and Val D'or coal seams are believed to have developed contemporaneously: the Mynheer thrust occurs on one side of a transverse ramp and the Wee and Val D'or thrusts on the other. Imbrication between bedding plane roof and floor thrusts at the tops and bottoms of the Mynheer and Val D'or seams has formed duplexes and increased the seam's thickness up to twenty times. Younger southwest-verging folds and thrusts altered the geometry of the duplexes. The largest of the thrusts, the Halfpenny Creek thrust, is believed to cut up-section from the Mynheer to the Val D'or duplex and to have had a major effect on the thickness of the Mynheer duplex. Deformation at Coal Valley concluded with





movement along the Beaverdam transverse ramp and contemporaneous southwest-dipping thrusts. These thrusts have cut the Val D'or duplex, juxtaposing older and older strata to the southwest and are believed to merge with a bedding plane thrust below the Mynheer coal seam. Folding in the area is predominantly gentle and the result of bending above thrust-related thickening at depth.





## Acknowledgements

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Henry Charlesworth for his guidance, encouragement and criticism throughout the course of this study. To the geological staff at Luscar Exploration Company Ltd. appreciation is extended for suggesting this project, for providing access to all drillhole data and internal maps and reports, for accommodation while in the field and for drafting the figures in this thesis. In particular I would like to thank Gordon Shewchuck, Merv Rogan, Bob Engler, Ron Ronaghan and Gary Johnson for their assistance and for many useful discussions. Bob Allan, the mine geologist at Coal Valley, obtained security clearances and a telephone line for data entry. Frank Dimitrov assisted with some drafting and photography. Desmond Wynne's assistance with computer programming and systems use is gratefully acknowledged and appreciation for help with coding of geophysical logs goes to Jim Lee, Wendy Zwickel, Gordon Bailey and Bruno Wiskel.

The Alberta Research Council paid the author's salary during the summer of 1981. Other financial support was provided by an American Association of Petroleum Geologists Grant-In-Aid, the University of Alberta by means of a graduate teaching assistantship and spring bursary to the author and a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada operating grant to Dr. Charlesworth.

I would especially like to thank my wife, Andrea, for her constant encouragement and care during this struggle.



## Table of Contents

Chapter	Page
I. Introduction .....	1
II. Data Collection .....	5
A. Field Data .....	5
Field sheets .....	5
B. Drillhole Data .....	7
Drillhole sheets .....	8
III. Preliminary Data Storage and Processing .....	10
IV. Data Storage, Retrieval and Processing .....	12
A. Introduction .....	12
B. Cross Sections .....	14
C. Map Construction .....	15
Outcrop and Drillhole Maps .....	15
Structure Contour Maps .....	16
The Geological Map .....	16
V. Stratigraphy .....	18
A. Introduction .....	18
B. Description of the Coalspur Beds .....	18
VI. Structure .....	22
A. Tectonic Setting .....	22
B. Structural Elements .....	22
Southwest-dipping Thrust Faults .....	22
Duplexes .....	24
Transverse Faults .....	25
Northeast-dipping Thrust Faults .....	27
Folds .....	27
Mesoscopic Structures .....	28
C. The Val D'or Duplex .....	28
D. Mynheer Duplex .....	31
E. Wee Thrust .....	33





F.	Reco Fault .....	33
G.	Sterco Block .....	34
H.	Coal Creek Block .....	35
I.	Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet .....	36
J.	Weldwood Syncline .....	38
	Faults .....	38
	Folds .....	39
K.	Weldwood Fault Zone .....	39
L.	Beaverdam Fault Zone .....	40
	Beaverdam ramp .....	41
	Thrust faults .....	41
VII.	Structural Synthesis .....	43
VIII.	Summary .....	48
	List of References .....	66
	Appendix 1 .....	69
	Appendix 2 .....	71
	Appendix 3 .....	73
	Appendix 4 .....	74
	Appendix 5 .....	79





List of Appendices

Appendix	Page
1. Field sheet A codes .....	69
2. Drillhole B sheets coding system .....	71
3. The Luscar–Sterco Coal Valley mine grid .....	73
4. Formats of the raw and preliminary data files .....	74
5. Listings of preliminary processing programs .....	79



## List of Figures

Figure	Page
1. Rocky Mountain Foothills in the Coal Valley area .....	3
2. Format of the A and B field sheets .....	6
3. Format of A and B drillhole sheets .....	9
4. Flow diagram of file management and preliminary processing .....	11
5. Surface trace map example .....	17
6. Stratigraphic position of the Coalspur beds . ....	19
7. Stratigraphic section of the 'Coal zone' of the Coalspur beds .....	20
8. Major faults and structural blocks in the study area .....	23
9. Geological map of the Coal Valley area .....(in pocket) .....	
10a- 10o. Structural cross sections A-A' to O-O' .....(pages 52-65) .....	
11. Four stages in the initiation of a duplex .....	26
12. The Val D'or coal seam .....	30
13. Structural evolution of the Mynheer duplex .....	44
14. Schematic block diagram of fault geometry during duplex initiation. ....	46





## List of Plates

Plate	Page
1 Imbricate thrusts within the Val D'or duplex in Pit 21 .....	49
2 Small duplex within the Val D'or seam in Pit 21 .....	49
3 Main pod of the Mynheer duplex in Pit 5 .....	50
4 Mesoscopic folds in the Mynheer duplex in Pit 15 .....	50
5 Main pod of the Mynheer duplex in Pit 14 .....	51
6 Northeast edge of the Weldwood Fault Zone in Pit 21 .....	51



## I. Introduction

The Rocky Mountain stratigraphic succession at latitude 53° is divisible into an older miogeoclinal sequence, Precambrian to Middle Jurassic in age and a younger clastic wedge sequence of Late Jurassic to Paleocene age. The older sequence, dominated by Paleozoic carbonates, is well exposed in the Main and Front Ranges. The more recessive clastic wedge sequence underlies much of the Foothills. During orogenesis both sequences were thickened vertically and shortened horizontally, partly as a result of folding but mainly by movement along thrust faults that dip southwest and merge at depth with a basal detachment zone. Excellent exposures of Paleozoic rocks in the Main and Front Ranges and good seismic reflections from near the top of the Paleozoics beneath the Foothills have resulted in good documentation of the characteristics of thrusts in the miogeoclinal sequence. In contrast, poor exposures and seismic reflections for most of the Mesozoic rocks of the Foothills have prevented thrusts in the clastic wedge sequence from becoming as well known.

Recent coal exploration and production in the Foothills have generated vast quantities of drillhole data enabling structural studies to circumvent the scarcity of outcrop data. The purpose of this study was threefold:

- (1) to build outcrop and drillhole data bases for a 56 km<sup>2</sup> area in the outer Foothills comprising the Luscar–Sterco Coal Valley mine,
- (2) to retrieve and process these data with a software package for structural analysis and
- (3) to determine the structure of Upper Cretaceous and Paleocene coal measures in this area, including the nature and origin of the coal pods.

In the process it was hoped that the efficiency of computer-based techniques could be demonstrated and our knowledge of Foothills structure improved.





The Luscar–Sterco mine is located in west-central Alberta 48 km southwest of Edson and 200 km west-southwest of Edmonton. The area lies just northeast of Highway #40 (Nordegg branch of the Forestry Trunk Road), 30 km southeast of Coalspur (Fig. 1). Topographic relief is moderate in the northeast to low in the southwest. Although sparse, the best natural exposures are found along the Lovett River and on ridges in the northeast. Four abandoned and three active open pits and three trenches provide good exposure and there are over 2500 geophysically logged drillholes. Access to all open pits and trenches and to most outcrops is provided by numerous mine and exploration roads.

Vegetation is typical of a medium-relief, sub-boreal climactic zone. String bogs with grasses, moss and black spruce are numerous in the southwest. Alders and willows predominate along the banks of creeks and rivers. Elsewhere a mature coniferous forest predominates, except in the north where there are large stands of trembling aspen. The regions around abandoned and active open pits are disturbed sites.

Coal has been mined in the area since the early 1900's and the present Coal Valley mine lease now encompasses the former coal mining communities of Lovettville, Reco, Foothills, Coal Valley and Sterco. The end of steam-driven locomotion in the early 1950's forced closure of these mines, but new markets for thermal coal in Ontario resulted in renewed exploration in the mid 1970's and the opening of the Luscar–Sterco mine in 1978. The yearly production is now about 3.35 million tonnes of cleaned, high volatile C bituminous coal.

The lack of exposure in the Coal Valley area reflects a similar deficiency of published geologic literature. Early reports by Dowling (1909,1922), Stewart (1916), Allan (1920) and Allan and Rutherford (1924) introduced the stratigraphy and economic potential of the area. MacKay (1943,1947,1949) produced a preliminary geologic map of the Foothills belt of central Alberta and examined the stratigraphy in more detail. Much later, the Athabasca River regional geology map



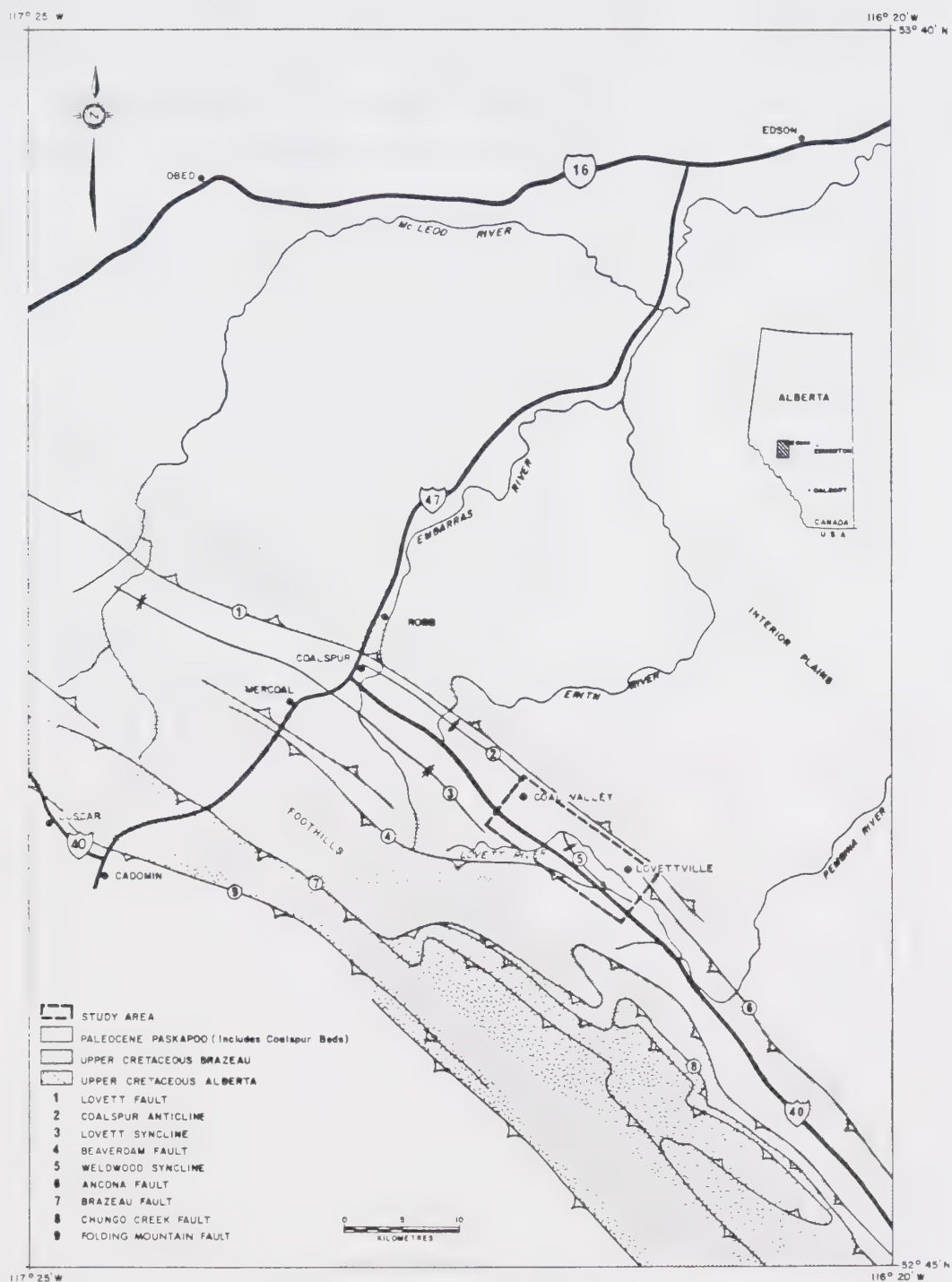


Fig. 1. Rocky Mountain Foothills in the Coal Valley area (after Price *et al.* 1977).



(Price *et al.* 1977). which displays structural features for the central Foothills, was completed. The configuration of the Mynheer coal seam in part of the study area was researched by Alexander (1977) and most recently the lithologic and sedimentological aspects of Coal Valley strata have been studied by Jerzykiewicz and McLean (1977,1980) and McLean and Jerzykiewicz (1978).





## **II. Data Collection**

### **A. Field Data**

During the summer of 1981 six weeks were spent collecting field data from open pits, trenches and outcrops within the Coal Valley mine lease. A four-wheel-drive truck was used to reach open pits and trenches and a trail bike to reach remote outcrops. Of the 260 data stations established, most were in the open pits.

The positions of data stations were obtained from maps prepared by Luscar-Sterco and Western Photogrammetry Ltd. Up-to-date topographic maps of the four active open pits have a scale of 1:1200. These were used directly (without aerial photographs) in pit mapping. In mapping the abandoned open pits topographic maps prepared in 1977 at a scale of 1:4800 were also used directly. Most outcrops were mapped using 1:33,000 aerial photographs in conjunction with 1:4800 topographic maps. Five northeastern outcrops not covered by the 1:4800 maps were located using aerial photographs and 1:12,000 topographic maps.

### **Field sheets**

At each data station certain positional, lithologic-stratigraphic and structural data were recorded on field sheets (Fig. 2). The format of the lithology section of the A field sheets is after Kilby (1978) except that lithologic and stratigraphic data have been coded. Most of the variables and associated codes for the A field sheets are listed in Appendix 1; the others are described in Charlesworth (1981) and will not be discussed here. The stratigraphic and lithologic coding system (Appendix 2) was based on a geophysically logged columnar section made available by Luscar Exploration Ltd. In the field the system was learned rapidly and with less time spent writing, efficiency increased. A field notebook was used to record general observations and interpretive ideas and to sketch mesoscopic features.









The mine grid, oriented  $46^\circ$  clockwise from true north, was used to specify the eastings and northings of data stations (Appendix 3). The likely error of an outcrop's recorded position depends upon the scale of the map. Positions from the 1:1200 maps should have errors of less than 2 m, from the 1:4800 maps less than 6 m, from the 1:4800 maps in conjunction with the aerial photographs less than 40 m and from the 1:12,000 maps less than 60 m. Elevations were determined by interpolating between contours on the topographic maps and should have errors of approximately half the errors in horizontal position.

Orientation measurements were made with a Freiburger structural compass and were recorded in terms of dip-direction and dip or trend and plunge with respect to true north. At each outcrop up to seven planar bedding orientations were taken, up to five readings for each joint set and as many readings as possible on fault planes and mesoscopically folded bedding.

## **B. Drillhole Data**

An active drilling program at Coal Valley has been carried out by Luscar Exploration Ltd. since 1973. By mid-November 1981 approximately 2770 drillholes had been drilled. Data from some 1900 of these with 'picked', reliable geophysical logs were recorded. The remaining 870 drillholes were not used for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) the drillhole was not geophysically logged,
- (2) the geophysical logs were unreliable, or,
- (3) the drillhole collar position was unavailable or unreliable.

The first two reasons applied to some 800 of the older exploration drillholes. Recorded drillhole collar positions were unavailable or considered to be incorrect for the remaining 70 drillholes.

Most logs are gamma, caliper, density and single-point resistance curves on a scale of 1 in to 10 ft. This combination enables reliable lithologic interpretations to be made. Since the beginning of 1981 the gamma-caliper-neutron tool has



been used in order to log through the drill stem in drillholes with caving problems. These logs result in less reliable lithologic interpretations.

The spacing of drillholes varies considerably. It can be as close as 8 m but in some areas no drilling has been done. The average spacing is approximately 75 m, which is sufficient in most cases to allow the structure to be estimated. The drilled depth averages 110 m with fewer than 10 holes exceeding 350 m. Most drillholes are vertical. Bottom-hole deviations are generally less than  $2^\circ$  for every 100 m drilled. The error in the recorded positions of drillhole marker bed intersections should therefore not exceed 5 m at the bottom of an average depth drillhole.

### **Drillhole sheets**

Certain data from holes drilled before November 1981 were used to construct a computerized data base as follows. First, these data were written onto Drillhole A and B Sheets (Fig. 3). An alphanumeric coding system was designed for Drillhole B Sheets such that all lithologic types, stratigraphic markers, faults and even coal seam partings in each drillhole could be recorded (Appendix 2). One feature of this system is that lithologic contacts can be distinguished from stratigraphic marker horizons and faults. The stratigraphic marker codes correspond exactly to those used for the HORIZON code on the A field sheets (Fig. 2).

Once a geophysical log had been checked for reliability the header information and overburden depth were written on a Drillhole A sheet. The header data include drillhole number, orientation, collar coordinates, logged depth, mine area code and drilled depth. Next, each lithologic or stratigraphic marker and fault pick down the hole was given a code and its depth and associated drillhole number were recorded on Drillhole B sheets.



A  
DRILLHOLE SHEET

DRILLHOLE NUMBER	<div style="text-align: center;">1                  4</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	GRID EASTING AND NORTHING	<div style="text-align: center;">5                                  16</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 190px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>		
GRID ELEVATION	<div style="text-align: center;">17                  20</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	DRILLHOLE TREND - PLUNGE	<div style="text-align: center;">21                          26</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>		
LOGGING TOOLS	<div style="text-align: center;">27                  30</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	DRILL DATE	<div style="text-align: center;">31                          36</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>		
LOGGED DEPTH	<div style="text-align: center;">37                  40</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	DEPTH TO BEDROCK	<div style="text-align: center;">41                  44</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	FLUID LEVEL	<div style="text-align: center;">45                  47</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>
DRILLED DEPTH	<div style="text-align: center;">48                  51</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>	AREA CODE	<div style="text-align: center;">52                  55</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-top: -10px;"></div>		

B  
DRILLHOLE SHEET

DRILLHOLE NUMBER 

1			4
---	--	--	---

 MARKER, LITHOLOGY CODE 

5		7
---	--	---

DOWN - HOLE DEPTH 

8						13
---	--	--	--	--	--	----

Fig. 3. Format of A and B Drillhole Sheets





### III. Preliminary Data Storage and Processing

Most of the data recorded on Field and Drillhole A and B Sheets were used to construct computer files which in turn were used as input to the software package TRIPOD (Charlesworth 1981). During this procedure, some recorded data were omitted, others were reformatted, and azimuths of structural data and UTM coordinates were referred to the mine grid rather than true north. Fig. 4 is a flow diagram of the computer files and programs used for this study.

During the field season evenings were spent entering data from completed Field Sheets A and B into line files on disc at the University of Alberta Computing Centre. This was accomplished using a portable interactive terminal, acoustically coupled through a direct telephone line to Edmonton. While in Edmonton, completed Drillhole A and B sheets were keypunched, verified and entered into computer files. Files made up from completed copies of the four types of sheet comprise the *Raw Data Files*. When all outcrop and drillhole data had been stored, these files were re-formatted to *Preliminary Data Files* for use with TRIPOD (Fig. 4).

The formats of the Raw and Preliminary Data Files are found in Appendix 4 while Appendix 5 contains listings of all the processing and re-formatting programs referred to in Fig. 4.



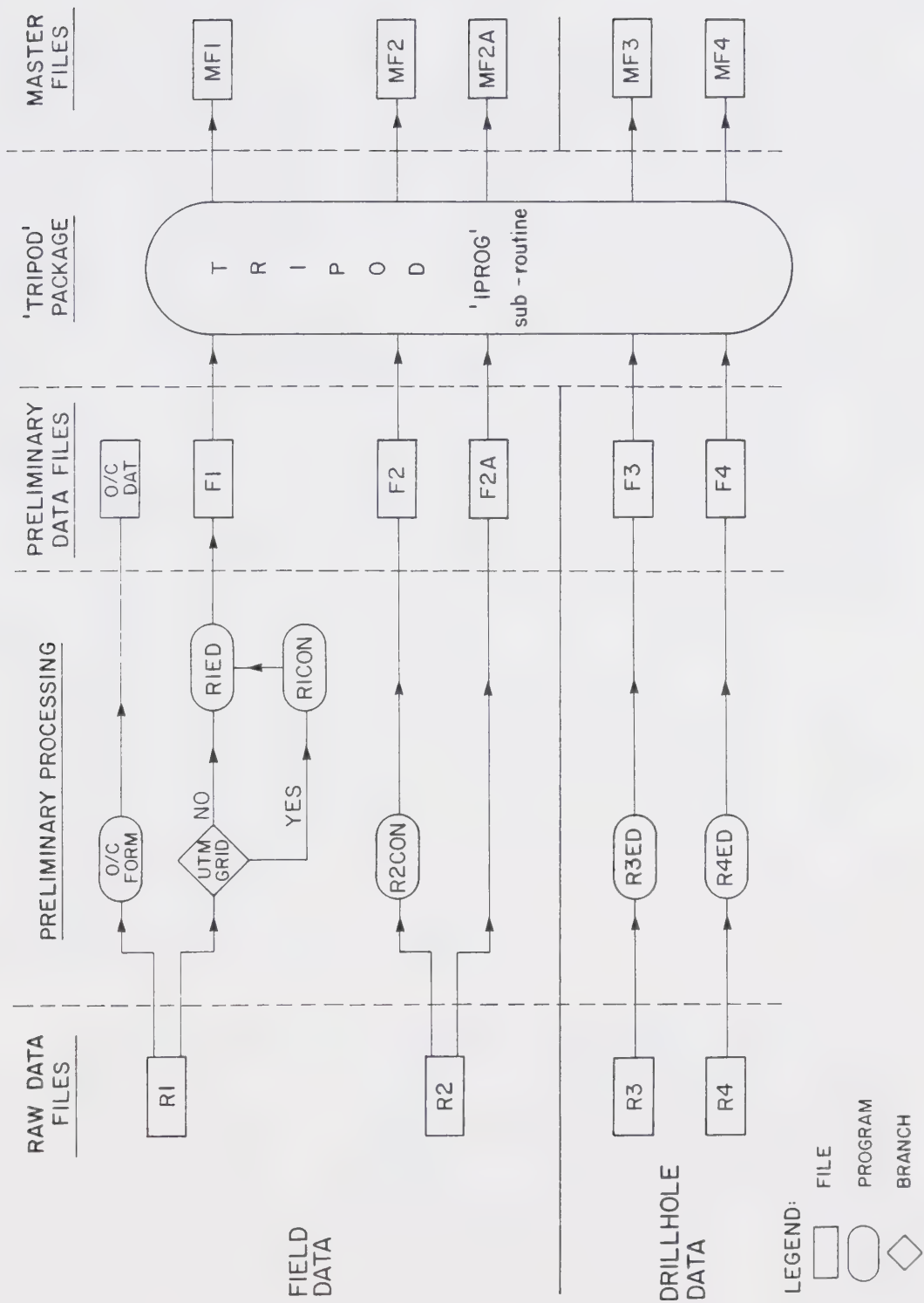


Fig. 4. Flow diagram of file management and preliminary data storage and processing



## IV. Data Storage, Retrieval and Processing

### A. Introduction

Outcrop and drillhole data in the preliminary data files were stored, retrieved and processed using the Fortran software computer package TRIPOD (Charlesworth 1981) which has been designed primarily for field geologists, especially those working in the sedimentary terrains of orogenic belts. The system is command-driven and interactive to the extent that the required output, whether graphical or numeric, can be verified or rejected and re-run numerous times at a single terminal session. TRIPOD was designed about a main program which is essentially a command interpreter. The interpreter accepts a number of active and passive commands. The active commands cause the interpreter to call specific subroutines for computation while the passive commands establish the output parameters and the data *retrieval filters*. These filters allow for data to be retrieved on the basis of

- (1) type: whether drillhole, outcrop or both
- (2) surface: a specific geologic horizon or marker
- (3) outcrop or drillhole number
- (4) geographic position
- (5) type of structure.

All combinations of these filters are allowed.

Upon specifying an active command the appropriate subroutine performs the action. Each subroutine is built around a *pre-processor* which sets up the command and makes parameter checks, a *point-processor* which performs the action on each data point in accordance with previously specified retrieval parameters and a *post-processor* which writes out the results and returns to the main program.

The Preliminary Data Files F1-F4 were processed by a subroutine in TRIPOD upon input of the command 'READ'. The subroutine called is 'IProg', which





generates *Master Files* 1–4. These files are stored in machine language in order to save disc space. The Master Files differ in format from the Preliminary Files and contain information concerning the file position of specific data types (Charlesworth 1981). Owing to the size and variability of the data types within the master files and the necessity for retrieval filters, permanent arrays to store and sort data for each subroutine would require excessive disc space. To circumvent this the subroutine 'READIT' reads the master files when other subroutines require specific data sets.

In conjunction with plotting and printing hardware the TRIPOD system was used to produce outcrop and drillhole collar maps, delineate structural domains, draw down-plunge cross sections, rotate orientation data, produce orientation diagrams of various types and list output and statistics data.

The usual procedure for preliminary structural analysis of deformed terrains using numerically based computer techniques is to divide the study area into domains where folding is essentially cylindrical. Establishing domains is usually accomplished by performing a series of statistical tests using outcrop data, such as explained in Cruden (1968) and Charlesworth *et al.* (1976). At Coal Valley, however, these statistical tests have little value because outcrops are sparse and irregularly distributed. Drillhole data are, however, well distributed in most of the study area. The most useful structural tool is therefore the down-plunge cross section. Data processing consequently proceeded as follows. First, the entire area was divided up into 'slices' perpendicular to the regional strike. Then, using the 'SECT' command of the computer package and an interactive graphics system available at the University of Alberta, a profile plot of both drillhole and outcrop data projected along an estimated fold axis for each slice was viewed on a graphics terminal. The alignment of traces of drillhole marker bed intersections on the profile was examined. If there were no anomalies and the traces could be considered geologically workable a hard copy of the plot was obtained. Otherwise the profile was re-plotted using different fold axis orientations until the best plot



was produced.

## B. Cross Sections

The orientation of the fold axis varies only slightly throughout the study area and the plunge is almost horizontal. As a result, in order for there not to be an undesirable superposition of projected outcrops and drillholes, it was found that the distance of projection generally had to be less than 75 m. Accordingly, the area was divided into ninety slices most of which are 150 m wide; a few slices in areas with scant drillhole control are 300 m wide. All outcrop and drillhole data within each slice were selectively retrieved using the geographic filter of the TRIPOD system. These data were then projected parallel to the fold axis onto vertical planes oriented parallel to the Coal Valley mine grid northing, which is within a few degrees of perpendicularity to the fold axes within the slices (Appendix 3). Use of this grid facilitated verification of drillhole positions in the event of anomalies and construction of cross sections and final geological maps.

The computer-constructed down-plunge plots display outcrop and drillhole data differently. For outcrops, a short line of appropriate slope is plotted along with the geologic horizon symbol. For drillholes, a line connecting the projections of the top of the bedrock and the bottom of the logged segment of the drillhole is plotted together with a '+' sign and the geologic horizon symbol for each marker bed intersected. Geologic cross sections were constructed from these plots by connecting corresponding marker bed intersections. The cross section was then balanced in order to maintain a constant cross-sectional area for each horizon.

The down-plunge projection method requires that the planar structures under examination be cylindrically folded. At Coal Valley gently folded stratigraphic horizons and low-angle thrust faults are the dominant structural features. In order for the down-plunge profiles to portray these features accurately it is necessary that they have the same fold axis orientation and that this axis be perpendicular to



the direction of displacement along the faults. At Coal Valley the strikes of most faults and stratigraphic horizons are almost parallel. Because of this, the fold axes for most faults and stratigraphic horizons can be considered coaxial. Since most thrusts move up the dip direction in their central portions (Elliott 1976) the error in displacement resulting from non-perpendicularity of the displacement direction of thrusts with respect to the profile plane is probably small. The error in measuring the amount of displacement from the profile will consequently be small as well. If the error in orientation of a profile is  $\theta$  and the projection length is  $p$  the error  $e$  in the amount of displacement associated with projection is given by  $p \sin \theta$  (Elliott and Johnson 1980). Because  $p$  is less than 75 m and  $\theta$  is unlikely to be more than  $20^\circ$ ,  $e$  should never exceed 26 m.

In some areas oblique and longitudinal cross sections were constructed in order to detect oblique faults. Because these are not down-plunge profiles the true dips and displacements of the detected faults could not be ascertained from these sections.

### C. Map Construction

Various types of machine-plotted maps were used during the course of this study. These maps were produced by a Calcomp Plotter in conjunction with the TRIPOD package, the SURFACE II package (Sampson 1975) and a library of plotting routines available at the University of Alberta.

#### Outcrop and Drillhole Maps

The command 'DRAW' in the TRIPOD package will produce outcrop or drillhole location maps depending upon the retrieval filter settings. Drillhole location maps were used to decide upon suitable cross section spacing and location and to verify the positions of questionable drillholes.



## Structure Contour Maps

A facility for placing the spatial coordinates of marker horizons in a file for use with an outboard structure contouring package is available in the TRIPOD system. The contouring package used in this study is the SURFACE II software system designed by R. J. Sampson (1975). In conjunction with longitudinal cross sections, structure contour maps were employed to determine the orientation of oblique faults.

## The Geological Map

The surface traces of geologic horizons, faults and axial planes of folds are key elements in the construction of a geological map. Because outcrops are so scarce at Coal Valley, geological maps were constructed by locating the intersection between the traces of these elements and the topographic surface in each cross section (Fig. 5a). The geographic position of each trace-topography intersection point was then measured from its X and Y coordinates on the cross section and placed along with a numeric identification code in the computer file TRACES (Appendix 4). Using the SURFACE II graphics system a plot of the various intersection points was obtained (Fig. 5b). Such plots greatly facilitated the construction of the geological map of the area.





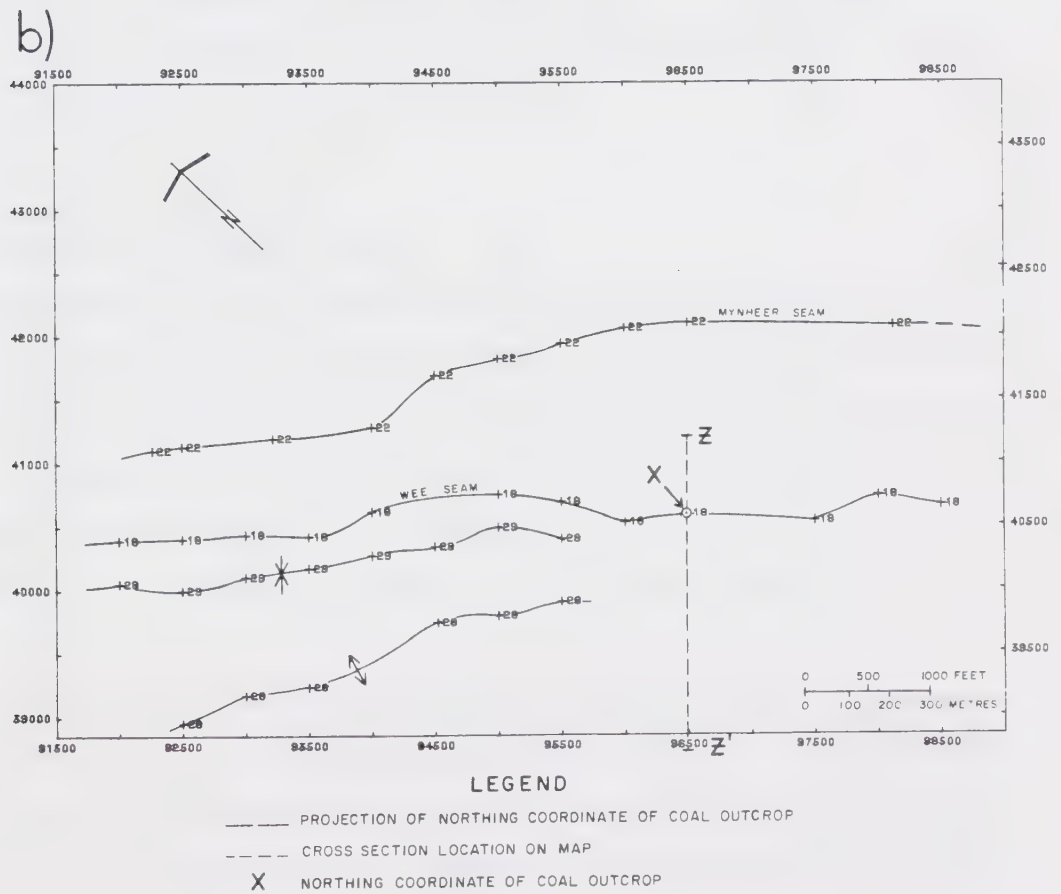
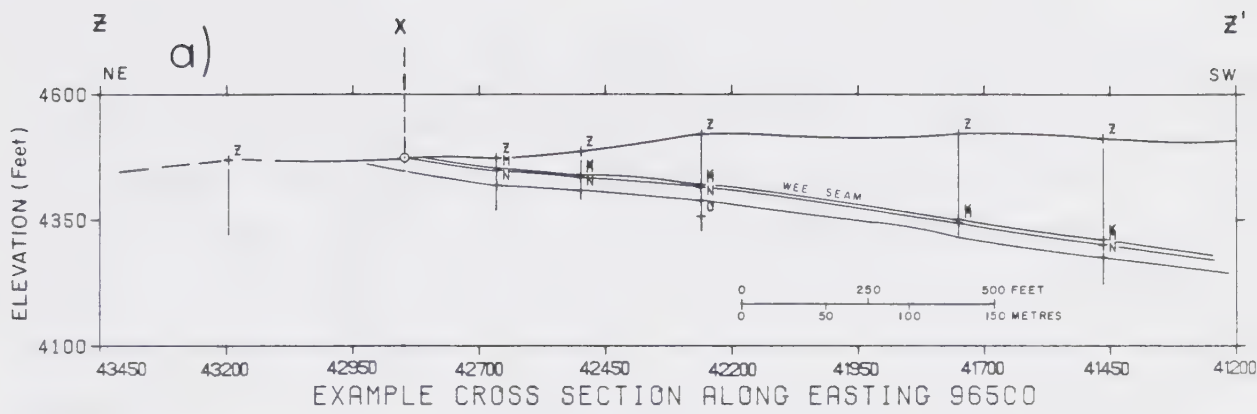


Fig. 5. Diagram illustrating the method of constructing geological maps at Coal Valley (a) sample cross section (b) sample geologic map constructed from positions in the computer file TRACES.



## **V. Stratigraphy**

### **A. Introduction**

Strata at Coal Valley are Upper Cretaceous to Paleocene continental clastics situated near the top of the Upper Molasse Unit of the Rocky Mountain clastic wedge sequence. Recent palynological studies have suggested that the base of the Paskapoo Formation does not coincide with the top of the Brazeau Formation in the central Foothills because the coal seams above the Brazeau Formation correlate with seams below the Paskapoo Formation in its type area (Jerzykiewicz and McLean 1980). This leaves a gap in the nomenclature between the top and bottom of the Brazeau and Paskapoo Formations, respectively. An informal name, the Coalspur beds, was assigned to these rocks by MacKay (1947,1949). All strata studied are contained within this unit.

### **B. Description of the Coalspur Beds**

The strata at Coal Valley belong to the 'coal zone' of the Coalspur beds (Fig. 6). This zone is approximately 300 m thick and contains 7 coal seams of which the oldest, the Mynheer, is 275 m above the Entrance Conglomerate (MacKay 1943). All rocks are of continental origin as substantiated by pollen and freshwater fossil identifications and by sedimentary structures. An alluvial paleoenvironment is suggested by Jerzykiewicz and McLean (1980).

Although scarcity of exposure prevented a complete section from being measured, geophysical logs permitted some lithologic units to be traced throughout the area. Fig. 7 is the stratigraphic section for strata analyzed in this study and includes coal seam names which were assigned in the earlier part of this century.

In a broad sense the rocks at Coal Valley consist of fining upward sequences of sandstones, siltstones and mudstones interspersed with coals, carbonaceous mudstones and bentonites. A few laterally discontinuous pebble



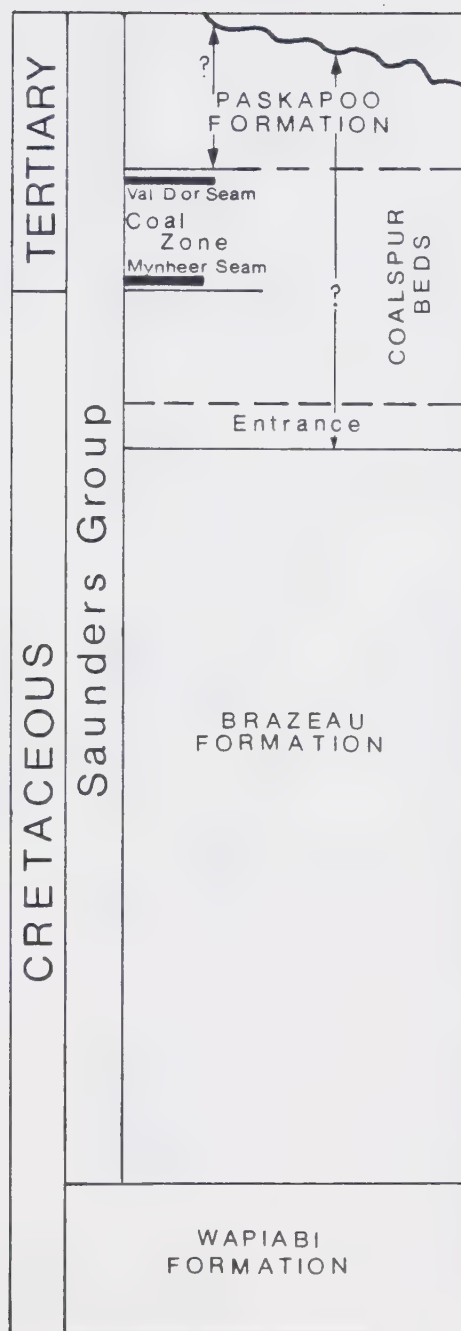


Fig. 6. Stratigraphic position of the Coalspur beds and the 'Coal Zone' (after Jerzykiewicz and McLean 1980)





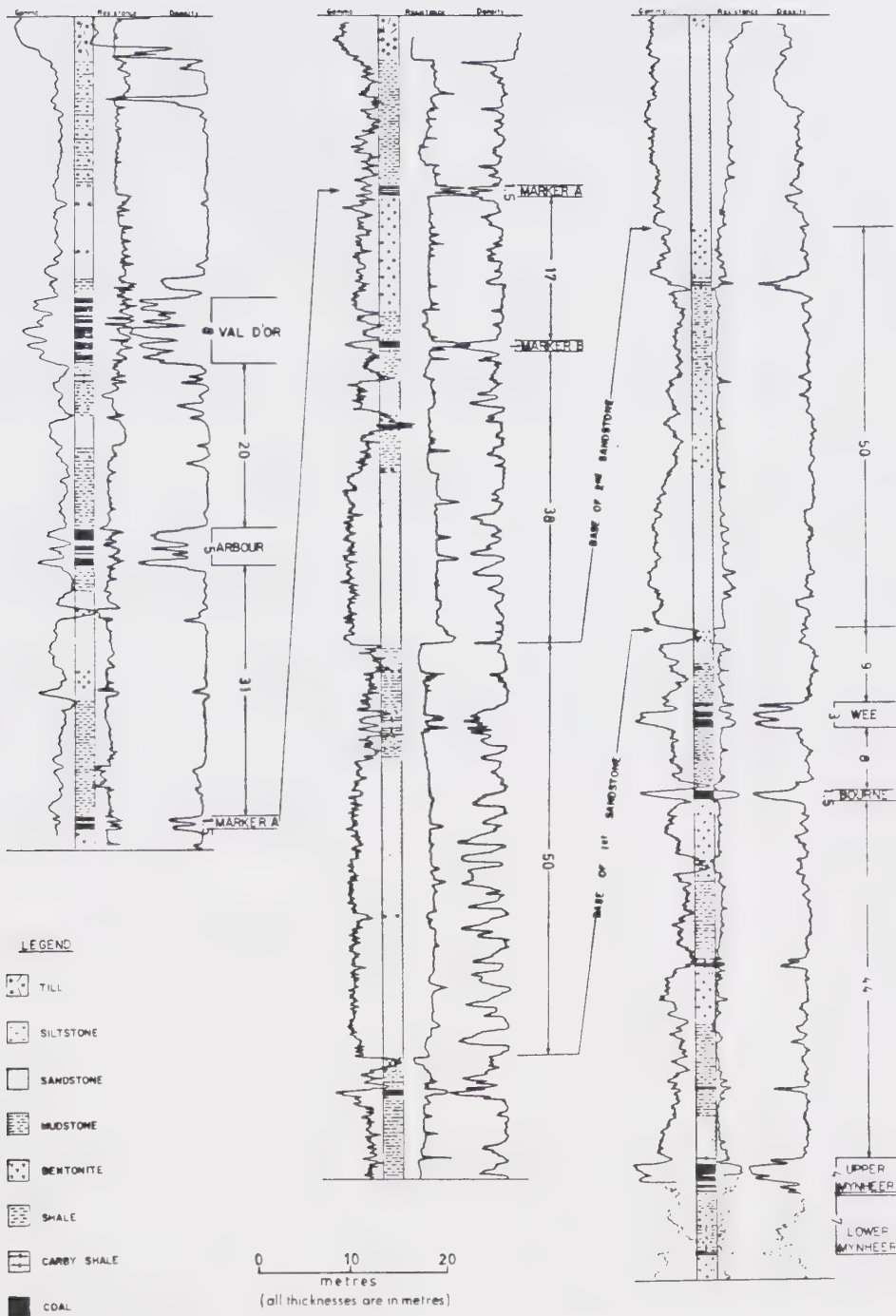


Fig. 7. Stratigraphic section of the 'Coal zone' of the Coalspur beds (after Luscar Exploration staff).



conglomerates representing channel lag deposits were observed and a siliceous tuff crops out in the northwest. The sandstones have a characteristic salt-and-pepper texture, weather to light rust or greyish olive, and contain a large proportion of clay cement. Siltstones are generally thinly bedded, greenish-grey and weather light brown; near coal seams they contain abundant plant remains. The mudstones weather rapidly to greenish grey clay with little preservation of sedimentary structure. Bentonite partings occur in a number of coal seams. They are light grey to light orange in color and are composed essentially of smectites (L. Pudsey, personal communication, 1981). A complete lithofacies analysis of the Coalspur beds can be found in Jerzykiewicz and McLean (1980).

All the coal seams and two bentonites have highly characteristic signatures on geophysical logs and can be used as marker beds for structural purposes. For instance the 'Lower Mynheer', lying immediately below the Mynheer coal seam, is a useful marker horizon containing 5 m of carbonaceous mudstones and bentonites. The lenticularity of many of the sandstone beds at outcrop and the variability of drillhole log signatures suggest that the facies of strata between marker horizons change over short distances.



## VI. Structure

### A. Tectonic Setting

The outer Foothills in the vicinity of the study area can be defined as lying between the northeast-dipping Lovett and the southwest-dipping Brazeau faults (Fig. 1). To the southwest lie the inner or western Foothills characterized by low-angle, folded thrust faults which cut up-section to the northeast through the Mesozoic clastic wedge sequence (see Hake *et al.* 1942; Kilby 1978; Hill 1980; Charlesworth and Kilby 1981). To the northeast lies the southwest limb of the Alberta syncline. The structure of the outer Foothills is obscure, primarily the result of poor exposures and the monotonous nature of the Upper Cretaceous–Paleocene continental clastics. The most conspicuous large-scale folds near Coal Valley are the Coalspur Anticline and the Lovett Syncline.

For the purpose of description, the study area has been divided into ten structural blocks, the largest of which are shown in Fig. 8. Within each of the blocks specific structural elements tend to occur. The geological map (Fig. 9, in pocket) and the cross sections (Figs. 10a–10o, pages 52–65) display the structure of the study area.

### B. Structural Elements

#### Southwest-dipping Thrust Faults

The most prevalent structural element in the Foothills is the southwest-dipping thrust fault. Such thrusts generally

- (1) follow a staircase trajectory composed of flats and ramps,
- (2) cut up-section in the direction of hanging wall displacement,
- (3) thrust older rocks over younger, and
- (4) are folded by subsequent deformation of footwall strata.



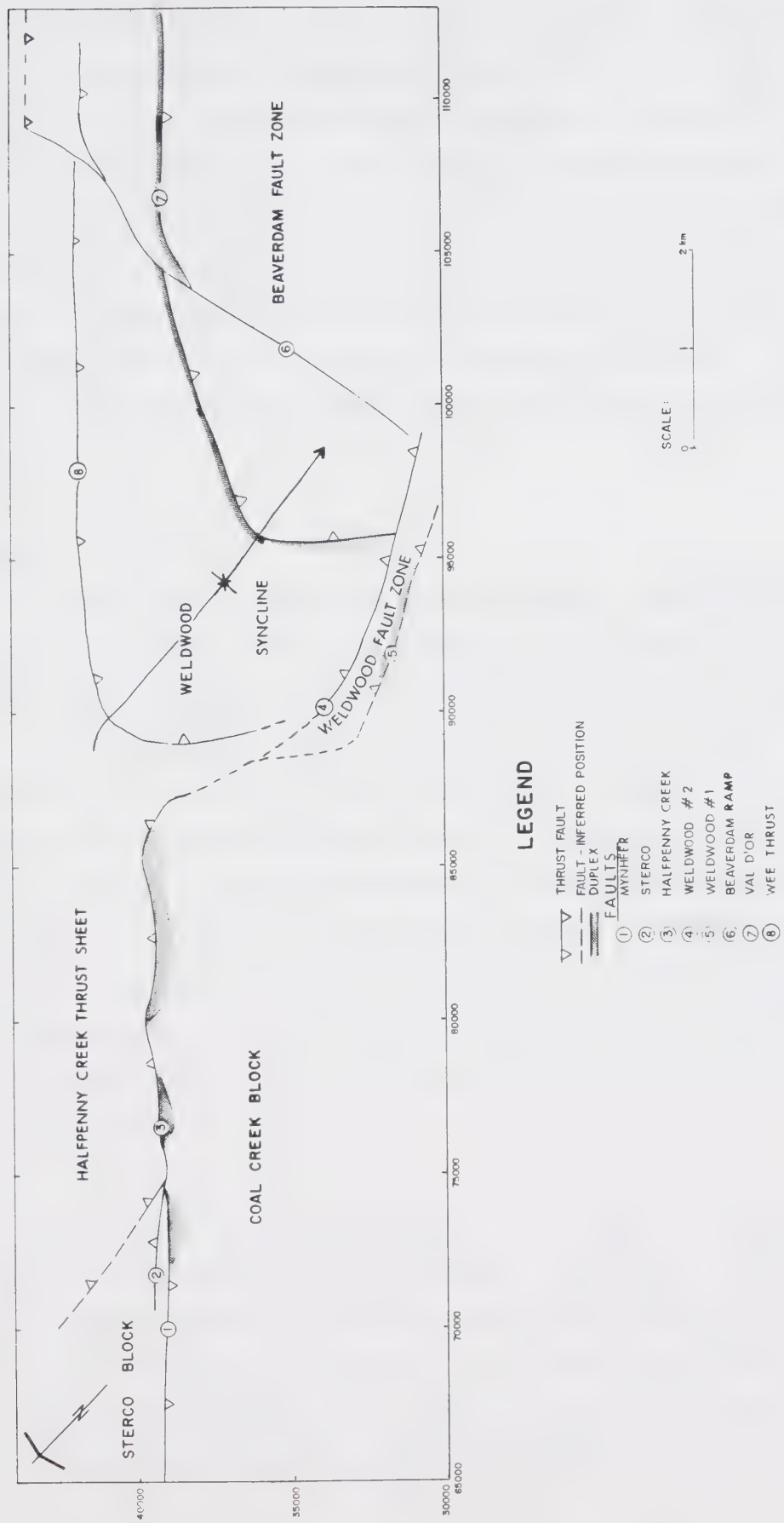


Fig. 8. Major faults and structural blocks in the study area.





At Coal Valley there appear to be two generations of southwest-dipping faults. The older structures are low-angle, bedding-plane thrusts which glide within some of the coal, carbonaceous mudstone and bentonite horizons of the coal zone and which are commonly the bounding thrusts of duplexes (see below). The younger faults are higher-angle thrusts which cut up-section through both competent and incompetent horizons as well as through the duplexes. Some appear to be imbricates which merge with bedding plane thrusts at depth. They tend to make  $30^\circ$  angles with bedding, but the actual dip of some of the faults can be very steep because they have rotated along younger underlying listric thrusts.

### Duplexes

A duplex consists of two thrusts, both essentially parallel to bedding, separated by a series of more steeply dipping imbricate thrusts that have thickened the intervening stratigraphic succession. The term *duplex* was first applied to a fault zone in southwestern Alberta. In this area the Lewis and Mount Crandell thrusts are the floor and roof thrust boundaries of "a suite of more steeply dipping minor thrusts that thicken and shorten an intervening panel of rock" (Dahlstrom 1970). This type of structure was documented by Peach *et al.* (1907) in the Scottish Caledonides but was termed "schuppen" or "imbricate" structure, neither term implying the existence of a roof thrust. Duplexes have subsequently been documented in the southern Appalachians (Boyer 1976), southeastern British Columbia (Fermor and Price 1976) and in the Scottish Caledonides (Elliott and Johnson 1980).

In the Canadian Rockies thrusts tend to have staircase geometries, with bedding-plane glide zones or 'flats' connected by footwall longitudinal 'ramps', that make angles of less than  $35^\circ$  to bedding. Boyer (1978) believes that duplexes form from the progressive breakdown of the footwall ramp connecting two flats. The outcome of the breakdown of a ramp is the stacking of a panel of rock called a 'horse', due to movement of the panel along the floor thrust flat and up



the active ramp. The active footwall ramp connects the active segments of the roof and floor thrusts. Continued breakdown of the ramp in the direction of hanging wall transport creates a series of stacked horses separated by imbricate thrusts which merge down dip with the floor thrust at depth and up dip with the roof thrust. The mechanics are not understood but balanced restored cross sections enable the probable sequence of duplex formation to be unravelled (Fig. 11). Most duplexes are approximately tabular, although irregularly shaped duplexes with folded roof thrusts have been documented (Elliott and Johnson 1980, p.79). The geometry of a duplex enables the derivation of quantitative information. If the present cross-sectional area of a duplex is  $A$  and the original thickness of the imbricated strata is  $t_0$ , the original length  $L_0$  of the strata in the duplex can be calculated from:  $L_0 = A/t_0$ . Assuming plane strain, the minimum amount of shortening  $S$  which has taken place between the roof and floor thrusts in the duplex can then be calculated by subtracting the current length of the duplex  $L'$  from  $L_0$  (Elliott and Johnson 1980).

At Coal Valley duplexes appear to be confined to the Val D'or and Mynheer coal seams. The most intriguing feature of these duplexes is that the roof and floor thrusts generally coincide with the tops and bottoms of these coal seams, resulting in greatly thickened sections of coal of considerable economic importance. Their geologic and economic significance warrants treatment of the duplexes as distinct structural units.

### Transverse Faults

Most faults which are oblique or perpendicular to the regional strike of the Rocky Mountain Foothills are either (Dahlstrom 1970)

- (1) tear faults which are usually confined to a thrust sheet or
- (2) transverse ramps.

At Coal Valley at least two transverse or oblique ramps appear to be present. One, the Reco Fault, separates the Mynheer duplex to the northwest from





Fig. 11. Four stages in the initiation of a duplex (after Boyer, 1978).



the Wee bedding plane thrust and the Val D'or duplex to the southeast. The oblique Beaverdam ramp separates the Weldwood Syncline and Weldwood Fault Zone to the northwest from the Beaverdam Fault Zone to the southeast (Fig. 8). In addition, the Halfpenny Creek thrust and Weldwood #1 and #2 thrusts are believed to be connected by a transverse ramp (Fig. 8).

### **Northeast-dipping Thrust Faults**

Northeast-dipping thrusts are an important structural element in the outermost Foothills, particularly near the western margin of the asymmetric Alberta Syncline. They thus form the northeastern boundary of what petroleum explorationists often call the 'triangle' or 'delta' zone. Here, northeast-dipping strata in the southwest limb of the Alberta syncline are bounded below by one or more northeast-dipping thrusts whereas on the other side of the 'triangle' most strata dip southwest above southwest-dipping thrusts. The upturning of the southwest limb of the Alberta syncline was probably the result of tectonic thickening of strata lying between the northeast-dipping thrusts and the basal detachment zone. Northeast-dipping thrusts such as the Wildhay, Pedley, Lovett, Waldron and Black Mountain faults have been documented in the southern and central outer Foothills (Hume 1931; Douglas 1950; Irish 1965; Price 1981). At Coal Valley northeast-dipping thrusts can be observed at the surface and interpreted in the subsurface. The northeast-dipping Halfpenny Creek thrust delineates the boundary between the Coal Creek Block and the Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet whereas the east-dipping Weldwood thrusts occur in the vicinity of the Weldwood Fault Zone (Fig. 8). Just northeast of the study area a major northeast-dipping thrust, the Lovett fault, lies in the southwest limb of the Alberta Syncline (Fig. 1).

### **Folds**

Deformation by folding in the outer Foothills has been less intense than in the inner Foothills. Folds tend to be simple, rounded and concentric and to be less tight and less closely-spaced than folds closer to the Front Ranges. The larger folds at Coal Valley are probably bending folds where strata have behaved





passively in response to deformation associated with a vertical bending moment in underlying strata, rather than buckle or kink folds which resulted from compression parallel to layering.

Most strata in the study area dip essentially homoclinally or are gently folded. These folds tend to have vertical or steeply dipping axial planes and fold axes with average trends of  $162^{\circ}$  and plunges of  $3^{\circ}$ . The Coal Creek Block contains three folds which end downwards against the Mynheer duplex. A moderately southeast-plunging anticline is contained within the Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet in the north-central part of the study area. In the Weldwood Syncline the Reco anticline-syncline fold pair and the Weldwood syncline are open folds with long wavelengths.

### **Mesoscopic Structures**

Structures at the scale of an outcrop in the study area include highly contorted small-scale folds in disturbed coal seams, small-scale faults (both thrust and normal), drag folds, thrusts, joints, slickenside striae and calcite fibres associated with both fault and joint surfaces. Small scale faults and disharmonic folds are common in all coal seams which have been structurally thickened or which were glide horizons. For most of the study area, joints can be grouped into three sets, two of which are widespread. The dominant joint set has a mean orientation of  $275^{\circ} \pm 8^{\circ}$ . The second set averages  $354^{\circ} \pm 8^{\circ}$  while the third, less widespread joint set has a mean orientation of  $54^{\circ} \pm 8^{\circ}$ . Northwest of Pits 14 and 15, joint sets are poorly developed.

### **C. The Val D'or Duplex**

The Val D'or coal seam in the southeastern part of the study area generally occurs in a duplex bounded by the Val D'or roof and floor thrusts. At all localities where the seam crops out repetition of strata within the duplex is easy to see because of the existence of sandstone and bentonite layers within the seam. The connecting imbricate faults can also be clearly observed. The existence of the



duplex at depth is indicated by the seam's increased thickness – up to five times normal (as seen in Figs. 10m–10o) – and by the repetition of marker beds within the seam as seen on geophysical logs (Fig. 12). The duplex is believed to terminate to the northwest against the Reco fault and to have developed contemporaneously with the Mynheer duplex and the Wee thrust (see below). The duplex is cut by and therefore older than the Beaverdam fault, thrust faults in the Beaverdam Fault Zone, and the Weldwood thrusts. It appears to die out and be replaced by a bedding plane thrust both along strike to the southeast and down-dip to the southwest.

In the Weldwood Syncline, near the outcrop of the Val D'or seam, the roof and floor thrusts coincide with the top and bottom of the seam. Horseshoes are well delineated by repetition of thin bentonites and the 35–40 cm thick sandstone split between the 'B' and 'C' coals of the seam (Fig. 12). The imbricate thrusts have orientations that average  $215^{\circ} \pm 30^{\circ}$  and make angles with bedding of  $20^{\circ}$ . Displacements on these thrusts, which are some 4 m apart, average 5 m (Plate 1, page 49). Val D'or coal adjacent to the hanging wall of the Weldwood #2 thrust is nowhere exposed, but has been intersected by drillholes. Although gently dipping throughout, the thickness of the seam is up to three times normal and apparently occurs in a duplex (Fig. 10j).

In the Beaverdam fault zone the Val D'or duplex is partially exposed in Pit 24 where thickening up to 4.5 times has occurred. Within the zone thickening decreases down-dip to the southwest and also along strike to the southeast (Figs. 10m–10o).

In the Weldwood Fault Zone the Val D'or seam occurs in a duplex which has probably been rotated and repeated by younger, northeast-dipping, listric thrust faults. Although the structure of the duplex could not be ascertained, the large thickness of coal now observed is thought to be a function of imbrication of the seam between the Val D'or roof and floor thrusts and later repetition of the



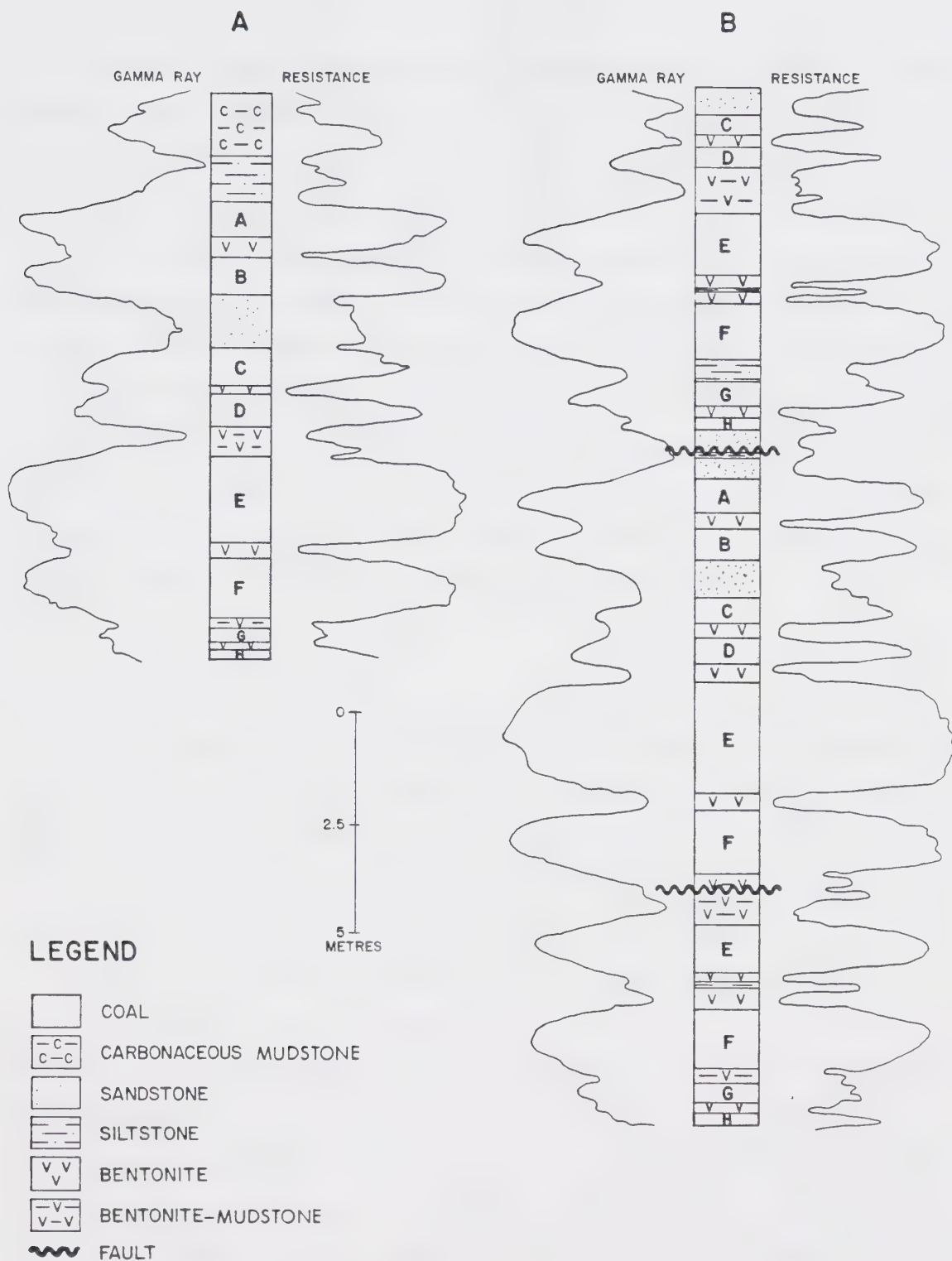


Fig. 12. The Val D'or Coal Seam: a) normal stratigraphy b) stratigraphy repeated by imbricate thrusting within a duplex.



duplex by thrust faulting (Fig. 10i).

Pit 21, located in the hinge zone of the Weldwood syncline, is the only region where the Val D'or floor thrust was not observed to coincide with the base of the coal seam. Here, a layer of coal, carbonaceous mudstone and bentonite (the uppermost unit of the Val D'or seam) has been thickened from 1.0 to 1.5 m for 250 m along the strike of the seam. Individual horses are well delineated by a light orange bentonite marker. Imbricate thrusts bounding these horses are 20–30 cm apart and make angles of  $35^\circ$  with bedding. The orientation of the horses suggests a relative northeasterly movement of younger over older strata (Plate 2). This thin duplex occurs only 600 m southeast of the duplex which involves the entire seam. This observation, together with the lenticularity of the thin duplex, indicates that duplexes in the Val D'or seam are lenticular and separated by zones where the seam is followed by a single bedding plane thrust.

#### **D. Mynheer Duplex**

The Mynheer coal seam in much of the northwestern part of the study area appears to occur in a duplex bounded by the Mynheer roof and floor thrusts that occur at the top and bottom of the seam, respectively. Although the occurrence of imbricate horses is difficult to see in outcrop because of the homogeneous nature of the coal seam, that a duplex is present is suggested by

- 1) the seam's increased thickness, up to 20 times normal, and
- 2) the unfolded nature of strata below the seam.

Northwest of the Reco fault, against which the duplex terminates, the thickness of the duplex decreases until 3.5 km away, the Mynheer coal seam returns to its normal thickness (Ronaghan 1977; Figs. 10a–10f). Between grid eastings 75000 and 86000 the duplex is cut by and therefore older than the Halfpenny Creek thrust. The Mynheer duplex is believed to be contemporaneous with the Val D'or duplex, the Wee thrust and the Reco fault.





Whereas the floor thrust tends to dip uniformly southwest, the roof thrust has been folded into two longitudinal anticlines and a syncline. Towards the southeast these folds become overturned to the southwest and increase in width and structural relief.

In accordance with the folded nature of the roof thrust, the thickness of the duplex varies considerably, being greatest in two anticlinal pods whose separation varies from 300 m in the northwest to 575 m in the southeast. In the more northeasterly 'main pod' the thickness is up to 20 times normal (4 m), whereas in the more southwesterly 'secondary pod' thickening up to 17 times has occurred. The few drillholes which penetrate the southwestern flank of the secondary pod suggest that the Mynheer coal seam returns to normal thickness a short distance southwest of the study area, although drillhole control is insufficient to verify this. The northeastern limit of the main pod is abrupt; Mynheer coal here returns to normal stratigraphic thickness within 10 m. A normal or slightly thickened Mynheer coal seam underlies the syncline between the main and secondary pods. An isopach map of the duplex can be seen in Alexander (1977). In the southeast the duplex is truncated by the northeast-dipping Halfpenny Creek thrust in whose footwall fault drag can be observed (Fig. 10f). Figs. 10a–10c and Figs. 10d–10f illustrate the geometry of the Mynheer duplex in the northwest and southeast, respectively.

Some mesoscopic structural features in the Mynheer duplex can be observed where portions of the main pod are exposed in Pits 5, 13, 14 and 15 (Fig. 9). Apart from its highly brecciated appearance, the most conspicuous feature is the almost vertical attitude of bedding. Northeast-verging tongues of Mynheer coal intrude roof rock just above the roof thrust of the duplex in Pit 5, apparently confirming northeast-directed movement along the Mynheer roof thrust (Plate 3). Similar features have been noted in some large thrusts in the Rocky Mountain Front Ranges and other fold and thrust terrains (Gretener 1977). Other mesoscopic structures include large roof rock xenoliths (Alexander 1977) and folds with



wavelengths of 10 cm whose geometries are extremely variable (Plate 4).

Calculations to determine the minimum shortening between the roof and floor thrusts, as well as the thickening factor in the Mynheer duplex, were performed using the geometric relationships discussed on page 25 and data from 30 cross sections through the duplex. Results show that thickening in the main pod varies from 2 to 20 times the normal stratigraphic thickness with a mean of 10.5 times. In the secondary pod the range is 1.5 to 17 times with a mean of 7.6 times. The average minimum shortening (S) for the entire duplex is 10 km with a standard deviation between 30 cross section calculations of 1.7 km.

#### **E. Wee Thrust**

Southeast of grid easting 86500 (Fig. 9) the Wee coal seam is believed to contain a bedding plane thrust fault. Normally the seam is 3–4 m thick and contains two coals of approximately equal thickness separated by a 20 cm bentonitic mudstone. In the Weldwood Syncline it displays abrupt lateral variations in thickness. The variations are generally confined to the lower coal which is slightly overthickened in some localities and apparently absent in others. Core holes from the Weldwood Syncline have shown that the Wee seam (in particular the lower bed) is often highly sheared and pulverized (Shewchuk 1981). The Wee thrust is believed to be contemporaneous with the Mynheer and Val D'or duplexes and the Reco fault.

#### **F. Reco Fault**

A transverse ramp, called the Reco fault, is thought to occur in the vicinity of grid easting 86500. Although the fault is nowhere exposed, having been over-ridden by strata in the hanging walls of east-dipping thrusts continuous with the Weldwood thrusts #1 and #2 and the Halfpenny Creek thrust, an abrupt discontinuity follows the line of the fault. The Mynheer coal seam lies in a duplex northwest of the fault whereas it is undisturbed to the southeast. The Val D'or



seam occurs in a duplex southeast of the fault but is undisturbed to the northwest. The Wee coal seam southeast of the Reco fault is followed by a bedding plane thrust which does not occur northwest of the ramp. The Reco fault therefore appears to mark a transverse ramp along which the 10 km of displacement associated with the Mynheer duplex has been transferred to the Val D'or duplex and the Wee thrust. Although its orientation cannot be determined by direct observation, in accordance with the characteristics of transverse ramps elsewhere in the Rocky Mountains, the ramp is probably steeply dipping and has a northeasterly strike.

### G. Sterco Block

Strata beneath the Mynheer duplex lie in the footwall of the Mynheer floor thrust and are therefore autochthonous relative to those above the duplex. These footwall rocks, which consist of Lower Mynheer and older strata, are exposed northeast of the Sterco railway siding (Fig. 9). The block is bounded to the east-northeast by the Halfpenny Creek thrust but is probably continuous beneath the Mynheer coal seam elsewhere in the northwestern part of the study area.

In a few areas Lower Mynheer strata and the Mynheer floor thrust have been disrupted by faults younger than the duplex (e.g., Figs. 10b and 10f). Data were insufficient to determine whether these features are longitudinal thrusts or transverse ramps. In some areas Lower Mynheer strata beneath the duplex exhibit thinning and thickening perpendicular to strike (e.g., Fig. 10d). A small duplex in the Lower Mynheer may explain the thickening whereas thinning may have been caused by active involvement of this marker horizon in the Mynheer duplex.

Between grid eastings 73500 and 75500 (Fig. 9) the Lower Mynheer and overlying Mynheer thrust lying northeast of the termination of the main pod of the Mynheer duplex have been displaced southwestwards along a northeast-dipping fault, the Sterco thrust (Fig. 10c). The vertical separation of the displaced marker is 40 m but because the dip of the thrust is unknown its displacement could not



be determined. This fault cuts up-section and merges with the overlying Halfpenny Creek thrust 150 m northwest of Pit 5 but could not be traced further northwest than Pit 1.

#### H. Coal Creek Block

The Coal Creek Block overlies the roof thrust of the Mynheer duplex and is therefore allochthonous with respect to the Sterco Block. To the northwest, beyond the limits of the duplex, it overlies the Mynheer thrust. Strata within the block are folded and disrupted by the southwest-dipping Bourne thrust and its splays.

Anticlines separated by a gentle syncline are observed above the southeastern portion of the Mynheer duplex (e.g., Fig. 10f). These three folds have axial planes with dip directions varying from  $40^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$  and dips from  $75^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ . They developed contemporaneously with growth of the pods in the duplex.

A low-angle, southwest-dipping thrust, the Bourne thrust, is thought to occur in the Coal Creek Block between the Bourne coal seam and the roof thrust of the Mynheer duplex because everywhere the apparent thickness (about 58 m) of the Bourne to Mynheer interval is greater than the true thickness of 44 m. Above the southwestern flank of the main pod what appear to be a series of imbricate splays from this thrust have disrupted a 15 m thick assemblage of strata from above the Wee to below the Bourne coal seam (Figs. 10b and 10d). A bedding plane thrust may follow the Bourne seam in part of the Coal Creek Block which would account for the apparent absence of this seam in several drillholes. A sedimentological explanation for the absence of the Bourne seam is unlikely because of its continuity elsewhere in the study area. Drillhole control is insufficient to determine the dips and displacements of the Bourne thrust and its splays. The splays of the Bourne thrust do not extend along strike through the entire block but appear to be confined to the area between grid eastings 71500–78000 (Fig. 9).





Although drillhole control is poor, strata in the southwestern part of the Coal Creek Block appear to dip uniformly to the southwest at 25°.

### **I. Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet**

The northern quarter of the study area contains the northeast-dipping Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet (Fig. 8). The Halfpenny Creek thrust cuts and is therefore younger than the Mynheer duplex. It is partially exposed on the north walls of Pits 5 and 14. Only a few drillholes have penetrated the sheet adjacent to these pits but additional data are available from scattered outcrops to the north. The thrust is thought to be continuous with the Weldwood #1 and #2 thrusts.

Strata in the thrust sheet do not correlate with those elsewhere in the study area. They appear to belong to the lower part of the Coalspur beds and possibly to the uppermost Brazeau Formation and are thus older than the Lower Mynheer seam (Fig. 6). A distinctive 10 m thick assemblage of silicified tuffs and bentonites is exposed in Pit 5 and can also be seen on logs from nearby drillholes. The tuffs also crop out 2 m above the Halfpenny Creek thrust in Pit 14, but in this location the beds are only 7 m thick. Sanderson (1931) described a 5 m thick bed of "hard unaltered tuff interbedded with thinner beds of pure bentonite" from the Coalspur and Pembina River regions, 20 km to the northwest and southeast, respectively, of the study area (Fig. 1). He named this sequence the 'Saunders tuff' and stated that it occurs 245 m below the Mynheer coal seam. The 'Saunders' and 'Coal Valley' tuff horizons are believed to be equivalent because Coal Valley lies between the two occurrences of these distinctive markers. Furthermore, Jerzykiewicz and McLean (1980) have noted that both horizons and the Kneehills Tuff in the Alberta plains contain correlatable palynomorph zones. The occurrence of older strata in the hanging wall of the Halfpenny Creek thrust implies substantial southwest-directed displacement along it.

The thrust is exposed in Pit 5 where it forms the northeastern limit of the main pod (Plate 3). Here the fault coincides with a zone of shearing in which



northeast-plunging fibres of calcite in layers up to 4 cm thick have been precipitated and in which fault gouge containing unconsolidated carbonaceous, sandy and bentonitic material occurs. A similar zone of shearing occurs just above the main pod in Pit 14.

Drillhole and outcrop control are insufficient to trace the Halfpenny Creek thrust at the northwest and southeast edges of the sheet. However, aerial photograph interpretation northwest of Pit 5 suggests that the Halfpenny Creek thrust trends northward in this region (Fig. 9). Because the angle between the Halfpenny Creek thrust and bedding is unknown, displacement along the thrust could not be determined.

To the southeast the Halfpenny Creek thrust is believed to have cut up section into the Val D'or seam along a vertical or east-dipping, slightly oblique ramp which strikes  $25^{\circ}$  and to continue in the central-southwest portion of the study area as the east to northeast-dipping Weldwood thrusts (Figs. 8 and 9). That the thrust cuts up section to the southeast is consistent with the overall southeast plunge in the study area and that the age of strata in the hanging wall of the Halfpenny Creek thrust increases to the northwest. A small, subsidiary, northeast-dipping thrust has been interpreted on the basis of discontinuities of bedding orientations just above the Halfpenny Creek thrust and northeast of Pit 14. This thrust lies on the southwest flank of a broad, gentle anticline whose fold axis orientation is  $100^{\circ} \pm 13^{\circ}$  and whose steeply-dipping axial plane strikes  $126^{\circ}$  (Fig. 9). The anticline may be the result of a ramp at depth, in the Halfpenny Creek thrust or in the subsidiary thrust. The large northeast-dipping Lovett fault, which can be easily traced on aerial photographs, forms the upper boundary of the Halfpenny Creek thrust sheet. Because it lies northeast of the study area its characteristics and geometry have not been examined.



## J. Weldwood Syncline

The central-southeastern part of the study area is dominated by the Weldwood syncline which is probably continuous with the Halfpenny Creek Thrust Sheet. The syncline is bounded to the west by the Weldwood #2 thrust and to the southeast by the Beaverdam transverse ramp (Fig. 8). The syncline folds and is therefore younger than the Val D'or duplex and the Wee thrust. The oldest strata to crop out in the northeast belong to those slightly older than the Lower Mynheer marker bed. Exposures are limited to Pits 21, 41 and 42 and to the banks of the Lovett River (Fig. 9). Although drillhole spacing is small, averaging 150 m, most holes are shallow and do not penetrate the entire coal zone section.

Structure is simplest in the northeastern third of the syncline where strata older than the Wee seam dip uniformly to the southwest. Elsewhere there are east to northeast-dipping thrust faults, bedding plane thrusts and broad, gentle to open folds affecting Mynheer through Val D'or strata. The Val D'or duplex extends throughout the Weldwood Syncline, so that strata above the seam are allochthonous with respect to those below.

### Faults

Structure contour maps drawn on the base of the Wee seam and drillhole cross sections in the southwest part of the Weldwood Syncline have enabled detection of three east to northeast-dipping thrust faults, Weldwood thrusts #3-5. Because these thrusts strike parallel to the Weldwood #2 thrust they may be splays from it, but drillhole control is insufficient to verify this. Of these the Weldwood #3 thrust is the most extensive, striking parallel to the Weldwood #2 thrust, but it apparently flattens into a bedding plane thrust located between the Wee and Mynheer coal seams (Fig. 9). The geometry of and the displacement on the Weldwood #3 thrust can only be estimated from cross sections. The dip of the fault is probably similar to that of the Weldwood #2 thrust and the displacement is about 60 m (Fig. 10g). Weldwood thrusts #4 and #5 are small, arcuate, east-dipping thrusts which die out upwards in strata between the Wee and



Arbour coal seams and which could only be traced for 450 m in the subsurface. The Wee bedding plane thrust is also found in the Weldwood Syncline.

## Folds

The Mynheer coal seam near the abandoned mining town of Reco through to strata above the Val D'or seam south of Pit 21 have been very gently folded into a southeast plunging fold called the Weldwood syncline (Figs. 1, 9 and 10j). Val D'or coal in both limbs is presently being mined in Pit 21. This syncline has a vertical axial plane trending  $165^{\circ}$  and a fold axis oriented  $164^{\circ} 5'$ . The apical angle of the fold is  $175^{\circ}$ . North of Pit 21 outcrop and drillhole data reveal an anticline-syncline pair called the Reco folds, which are oblique to the Weldwood syncline but approximately parallel to the regional strike (Fig. 9). Although the anticline has been observed along the Lovett River, its geometry is better seen on drillhole cross sections (Fig. 10g). The syncline has been observed on structure contour maps drawn on the base of the Wee seam and on cross sections (e.g., Fig. 10j). The vertical axial planes of both folds strike southeast and their apical angles are about  $170^{\circ}$ . The relative ages of the Reco folds and the Weldwood syncline could not be established.

## K. Weldwood Fault Zone

The Weldwood Fault Zone is a narrow structural unit bounded to the northeast by the Weldwood #2 thrust and to the southwest by the Weldwood #1 thrust (Fig. 8). In this area Val D'or coal appears to lie in a duplex which in places has been intensely disrupted by and rotated on, younger, steeply northeast-dipping listric faults including the Weldwood #1 thrust. The structure in the zone varies from northwest to southeast. In the northwest the Val D'or seam dips steeply northeast but is of normal thickness (Fig. 10h). In the central portion of the zone the coal occurs in a pod which is 915 m long, 45–60 m wide and up to 90 m thick (Johnson 1979). In the southeast the seam appears to occur in a gently southeast dipping duplex where thickening is up to four times normal (Fig. 10k).





The only exposure of the zone is in Pit 26 where the northeastern part of the pod can be observed (Plate 6). The spacing of drillholes is low nearest the pod, but the shallowness of the holes and the inability to identify units within the Val D'or seam in geophysical logs have impeded definition of the structure of this complex region.

Although the Weldwood #1 thrust cannot be traced at the surface the steep northeast dip of the Val D'or seam through most of the Weldwood Fault Zone suggests that the seam is bounded below by a listric northeast-dipping thrust which juxtaposes Val D'or against younger strata and along which the Val D'or has probably been rotated. The absence of markers across the fault prevents determination of its displacement. In the central part of the fault zone the Val D'or seam is thought to occur in a duplex which has been complicated by subsequent faulting and rotation. In a vertical core from this region bedding dips at 65°–85°. Steep bedding in some areas is also supported by the large apparent thickness exhibited by geophysical log signatures of marker beds. This suggests that the Val D'or duplex has been rotated by subsequent movement along northeast-dipping thrusts. Besides rotation it is believed that younger, northeast-dipping thrusts repeated the entire duplex. It is difficult to distinguish the faults along which the duplex was repeated using geophysical logs alone because marker beds have such exaggerated signatures and cannot be identified with any confidence. The faults must die out along strike or flatten into a bedding plane thrust because they do not appear to disrupt the Val D'or duplex in the southeastern or northwestern portions of the fault zone.

#### **L. Beaverdam Fault Zone**

The southeasternmost portion of the study area lies in the Beaverdam fault zone, consisting of Mynheer and younger strata repeated by numerous longitudinal thrusts. The fault zone is bounded to the north by the Beaverdam ramp and continues to the southwest and southeast beyond the limits of the study area.



Towards the southwest the faults in the zone bring older and older strata to the surface. Folding is apparently limited to small-scale drag features associated with thrusting. Exposures of strata are limited to Pits 24 and 25 and along the Lovett River. Drillhole control is good near the outcrop of the Val D'or, Arbour and Mynheer seams but poor elsewhere. Drillholes rarely penetrate deeper than 180 m so little is known about the zone below this depth.

### **Beaverdam ramp**

Aerial photographs and drillhole data assisted in tracing the oblique Beaverdam ramp whose strike is  $65^{\circ}$ . Because drillholes are unevenly distributed the characteristics of the fault could be studied only near Pit 24 where drillhole spacing is low. On cross sections the fault appears as a steeply south-dipping thrust (e.g., Fig. 10i). However, the great difference in the amount of shortening between the Beaverdam Fault Zone and the Weldwood Syncline, the transverse to slightly oblique strike of the Beaverdam fault, and the counter-clockwise rotation of faults and bedding adjacent to its hanging wall suggest that the Beaverdam fault is an oblique ramp that dips steeply south. The continuation of the Beaverdam ramp to the southwest is uncertain. To the east the ramp changes strike moderately eastwards and is believed to continue past Lovettville, where it displaces the Mynheer coal seam, and to end in a bedding plane thrust below the Mynheer seam (Fig. 9).

### **Thrust faults**

Some 11 southwest-dipping thrusts have been identified using drillhole cross sections. Linear ridges visible on aerial photographs appear to follow the outcrop of resistant sandstones repeated by these thrusts. Drillholes, however, are irregularly distributed and shallow, so the exact displacement on the faults could not be determined. Nonetheless, the individual faults appear to make angles of  $30^{\circ}$  to bedding and have been traced for up to 3 km parallel to strike.



In the northeastern half of the fault zone the thrusts disrupt the Val D'or duplex and the Arbour coal seam (Figs. 10m and 10n). Other thrusts which lie above and to the southwest of the more northeastern thrusts have brought Marker A through strata older than Mynheer northeastwards over younger Coalspur beds and have larger displacements than those thrusts to the northeast (Figs. 10m and 10n). Because the angle between the faults and bedding could not be determined, the displacements on the thrusts is unknown. The thrusts are assumed to end to the north against the Beaverdam ramp. To the northeast the Beaverdam Fault Zone appears to end in a bedding plane fault beneath the Mynheer because there is no significant separation of the Mynheer seam near the abandoned town of Lovettville (Fig. 9). This bedding plane thrust is probably the basal thrust for the entire fault zone. From this thrust splays cut up section to disrupt coal zone strata. The apparently larger displacements associated with the more southwesterly thrusts in the zone suggests that the faults decrease in age to the northeast.



## VII. Structural Synthesis

Based on the aforesaid structural observations and with consideration of the geometric and temporal relationships of similar structures elsewhere in the Rocky Mountain Foothills, the author proposes the following five-stage structural evolution for the Coal Valley area.

### STAGE A

Deformation in the Coal Valley area began with movement along the Bourne thrust. This fault appears to be folded along with strata above the Mynheer duplex and is therefore older than this structure.

### STAGE B

Movement along the Mynheer and Val D'or thrusts resulted in the formation of essentially tabular duplexes in the Mynheer (Fig. 13, stages 1-2) and Val D'or seams. This movement seems to have occurred contemporaneously with movement along the Wee thrust and the Reco transverse ramp. Displacement leading to the Mynheer duplex seems to have been at least 10 km. Southwest of the study area, with the disappearance of the Mynheer duplex, the Mynheer roof and floor thrusts probably merge with a single thrust which must parallel bedding in the footwall for at least 10 km. The positions of the longitudinal ramps which must bound the wide Mynheer flat to the southwest and northeast are unknown (Fig. 14). Northwest of the study area, the roof and floor thrusts of the duplex appear to merge with a single bedding plane thrust located in the Mynheer seam where displacement is also probably about 10 km.





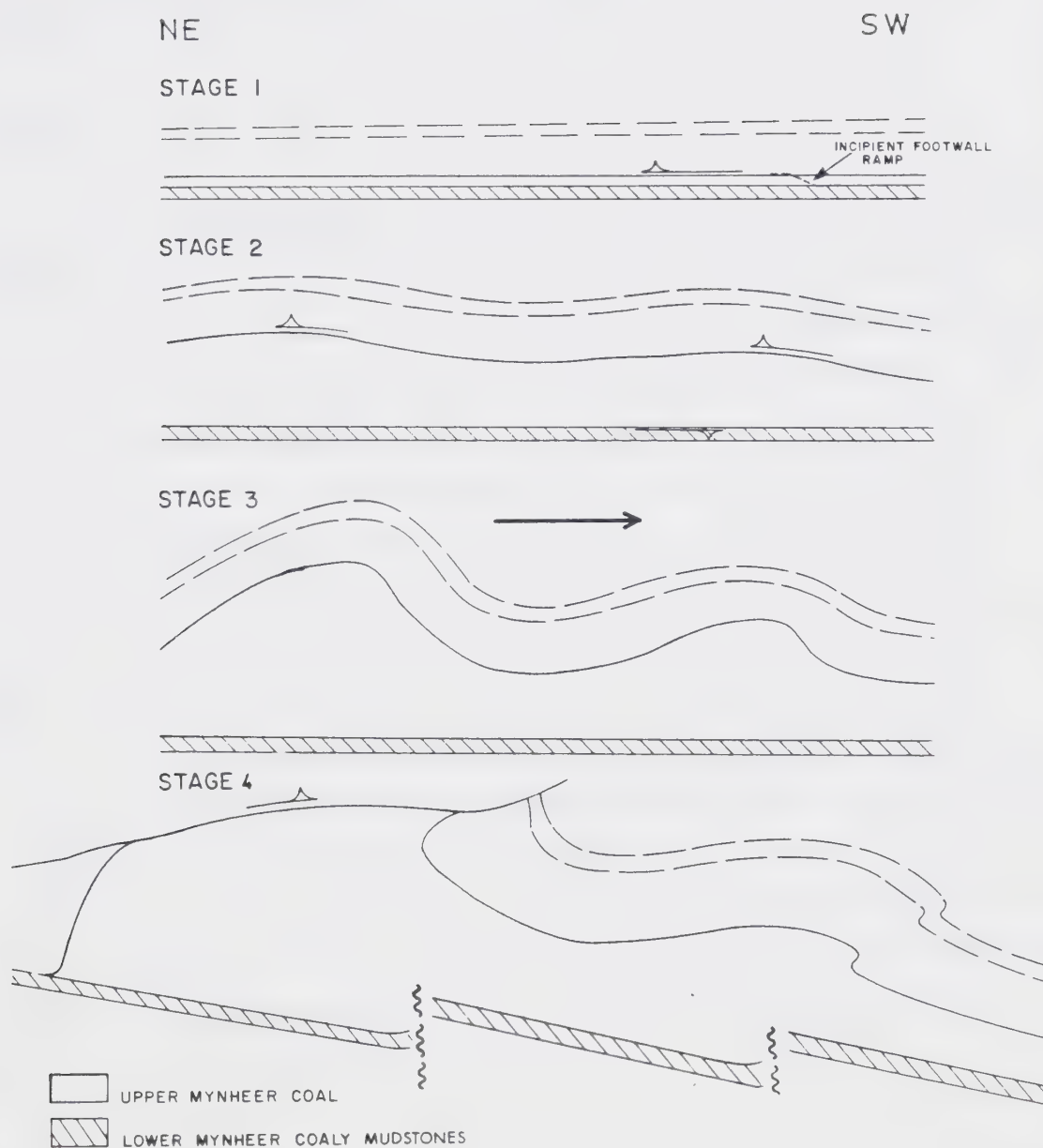


Fig. 13. Structural evolution of the Mynheer duplex.



Southeast of the Reco transverse ramp, movement along the Wee and Val D'or thrusts occurred contemporaneously with that along the Mynheer thrust. The combined displacement along the Wee and Val D'or thrusts is probably the same as that along the Mynheer thrust (Fig. 14).

## STAGE C

Whereas the movements that occurred during Stage B were associated with northeast-verging structures, those that took place during Stage C produced structures where vergence is to the southwest. Where the Mynheer duplex was sufficiently thick, strata above it behaved independently of those below, i.e. the duplex behaved as a detachment zone. Gentle folds corresponding to small variations in thickness of the essentially tabular duplex at the end of Stage B (Fig. 13, stage 2), became accentuated by buckle or kink folding (Fig. 13, stage 3). Folds of this type did not develop over the Val D'or duplex because it was nowhere thick enough to permit decoupling of strata above the duplex from those below. Furthermore, the Val D'or seam contains considerable detrital material, including a thick sandstone split and is therefore more competent. Detachment of the strata above the Mynheer duplex appears to have occurred in Stage C because the folds are overturned towards the southwest (Fig. 13, stage 3). The main and secondary pods, where thickening is up to twenty times normal, developed in the cores of anticlines which were formed during this stage. It was during this stage that coal in the Mynheer duplex probably experienced small-scale deformation, resulting in its present contorted appearance.

Probably contemporaneous with folding of strata above the thicker region of the Mynheer duplex, the northeast-dipping thrust faults became active. This is suggested by the fact that both they and the folds have a southwest vergence. The Halfpenny Creek thrust and Weldwood thrusts #1 and #2 are believed to be contemporaneous and to be connected by a transverse ramp. These two Weldwood thrusts probably merge at depth. Strata in the southwest limb of the



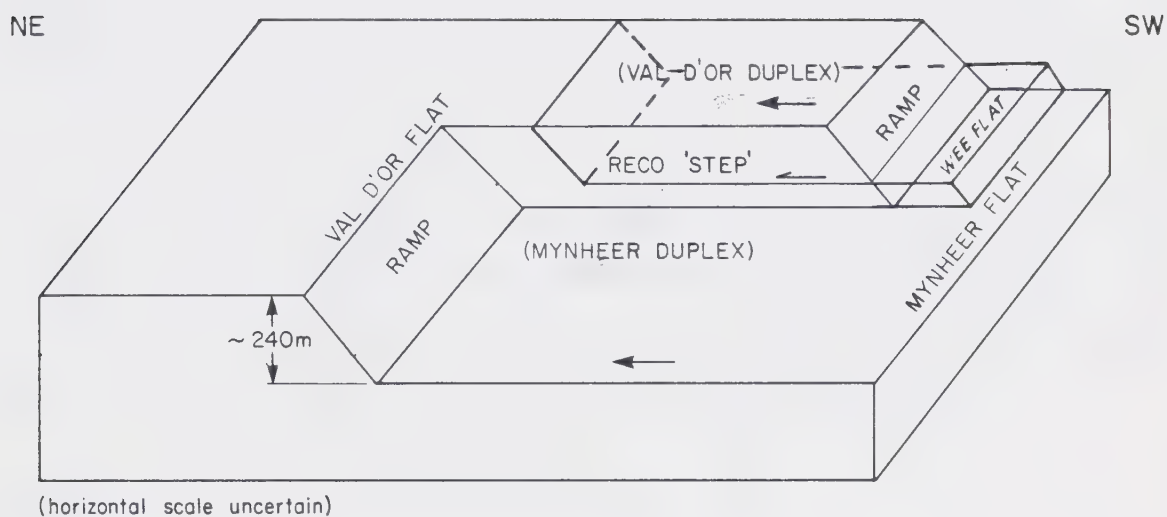


Fig. 14. Schematic block diagram of fault geometry during duplex initiation.



Weldwood syncline were rotated to their present position as a result of movement along the Weldwood #1-#3 thrusts, which appear to flatten with depth.

## STAGE D

During Stage D movement occurred along southwest-dipping thrusts which end to the north against the Beaverdam ramp in the Beaverdam Fault Zone. The northeast-dipping thrusts of the Weldwood Fault Zone are truncated by the Beaverdam ramp, so movement along the Beaverdam thrusts must have occurred after the end of Stage C.

The base of the Mynheer duplex was disrupted in certain localities by faults with small displacements (Fig. 13, stage 4). These are either small transverse ramps contemporaneous with duplex formation, or younger longitudinal thrusts, in which case these structures developed during or after Stage B, respectively.

## STAGE E

Movement along deep-seated southwest-dipping thrusts was probably responsible for southwest tilting of the entire Coal Valley assemblage. This tilting appears to have been the last tectonic event in the area.





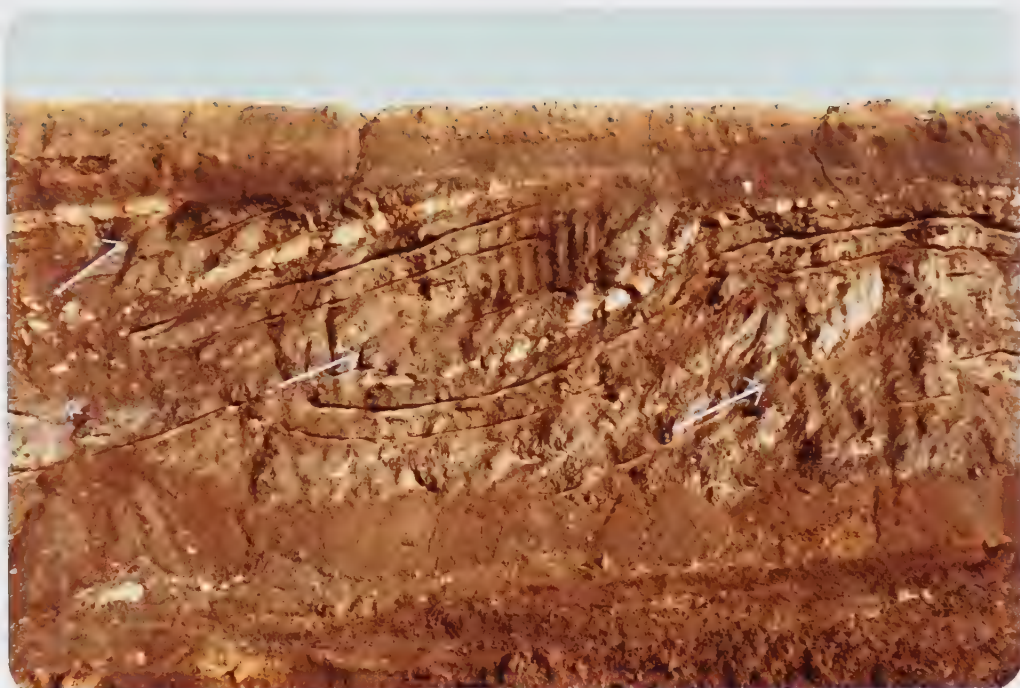
## VIII. Summary

All three objectives of the thesis project were realized, namely: (1) large outcrop and drillhole data bases were constructed, (2) computer processing of the data was accomplished and proved to be effective, and (3) the structure of coal measures in the study area was analyzed and the podding of two coal seams explained. Based on this structural analysis, a scenario for the structural evolution of the area was proposed.

The most economic and structurally significant feature in the study area is the duplex, which has resulted in up to twentyfold thickening of the Mynheer coal seam and up to fivefold thickening of the Val D'or coal seam. The reason why duplexes form in specific localities may be related to the interaction between large bedding plane thrusts, oblique ramps and northeast-dipping thrust faults. The recognition of other duplexes and structures associated with them will be necessary to establish a model for their occurrence in the Foothills.

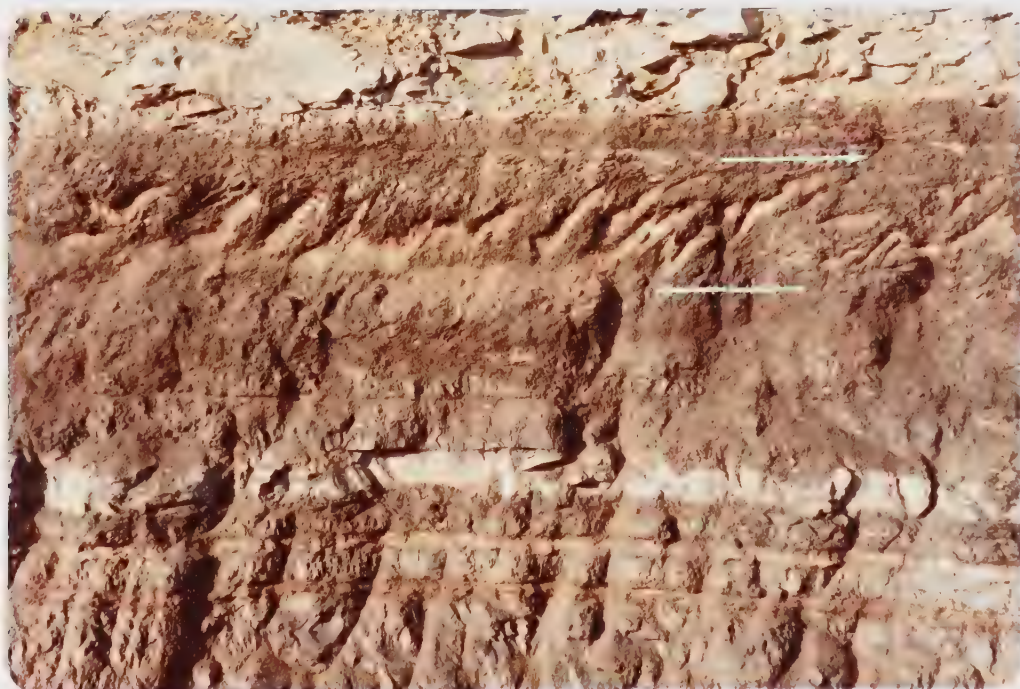


## PLATE 1



The Val D'or coal seam viewed from the edge of Pit 21, looking north. Imbricate thrusts within the Val D'or duplex are designated by arrows. Depth of the cut is 8 m.

## PLATE 2



The Val D'or seam in Pit 21, looking south. The imbricated bentonite in the upper part of seam is within a duplex. Roof and floor thrusts are designated by arrows. The sandstone split is 40 cm thick.





PLATE 3



The main pod of the Mynheer duplex in Pit 5, looking southeast. The lake level to the top of the coal pod is 26 m. Thrusts are designated by arrows. B= basal tongues, T= 'Coal Valley tuff' horizon.

PLATE 4



Mesoscopic folds in the Mynheer coal in Pit 15. The scale is shown.



## PLATE 5



The main pod of the Mynheer duplex in Pits 13 and 14, looking northwest. Water level to dragline bench is 34 m.

## PLATE 6











The Val D'or coal on the northwest edge of the Weldwood pod, looking southwest. Repetition of the 50 cm thick sandstone split is shown by arrows.





# Legend for Figures 10a-10o

	TOPOGRAPHIC SURFACE
	GEOLOGICAL CONTACT (known; inferred)
	FAULT (known; inferred)
	SENSE OF MOVEMENT
	BOUNDING FAULT OF DUPLEX (showing movement)
	OUTCROP STATION PROJECTION
	DRILLHOLE PROJECTION
	COAL SEAM

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| A VAL D'OR TOP    | K WEE TOP              |
| C VAL D'OR BOTTOM | M WEE BOTTOM           |
| D ARBOUR TOP      | N BOURNE TOP           |
| F ARBOUR BOTTOM   | P MYNHEER TOP          |
| G BENTONITE       | R MYNHEER BOTTOM AND   |
| H MARKER A        | S LOWER MYNHEER TOP    |
| I MARKER B        | U LOWER MYNHEER BOTTOM |
- (FOR KEY TO OTHER CODES SEE APPENDIX 1)



A number line diagram illustrating the conversion of 250 feet to metres. The top scale is labeled 'FEET' and has markings at 250 and 500. The bottom scale is labeled 'METRES' and has markings at 50, 100, and 150. A vertical line connects the 250 mark on the feet scale to the 75 mark on the metres scale, which is halfway between 50 and 100.

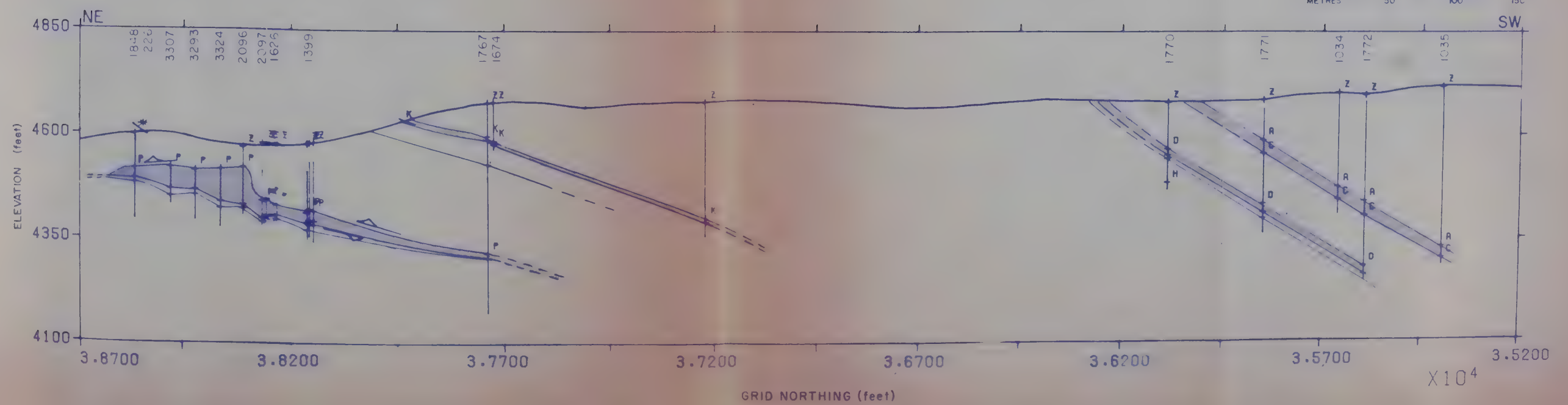




FIGURE 10b  
CROSS-SECTION B-B'  
GRID EASTING 74500

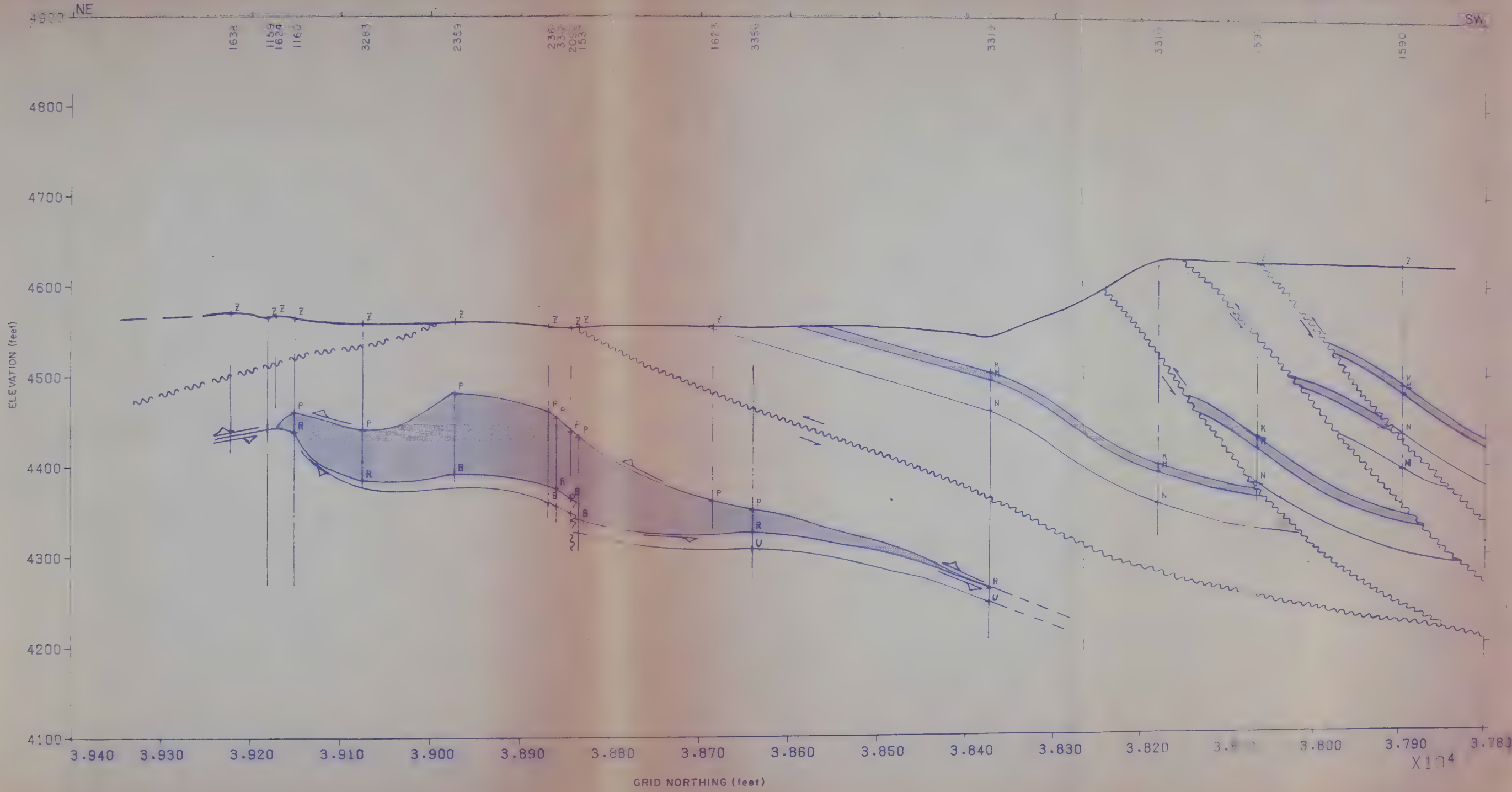
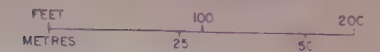




FIGURE 10c  
CROSS-SECTION C-C'  
GRID EASTING 75000

FEET 100 200  
METRES 25 50

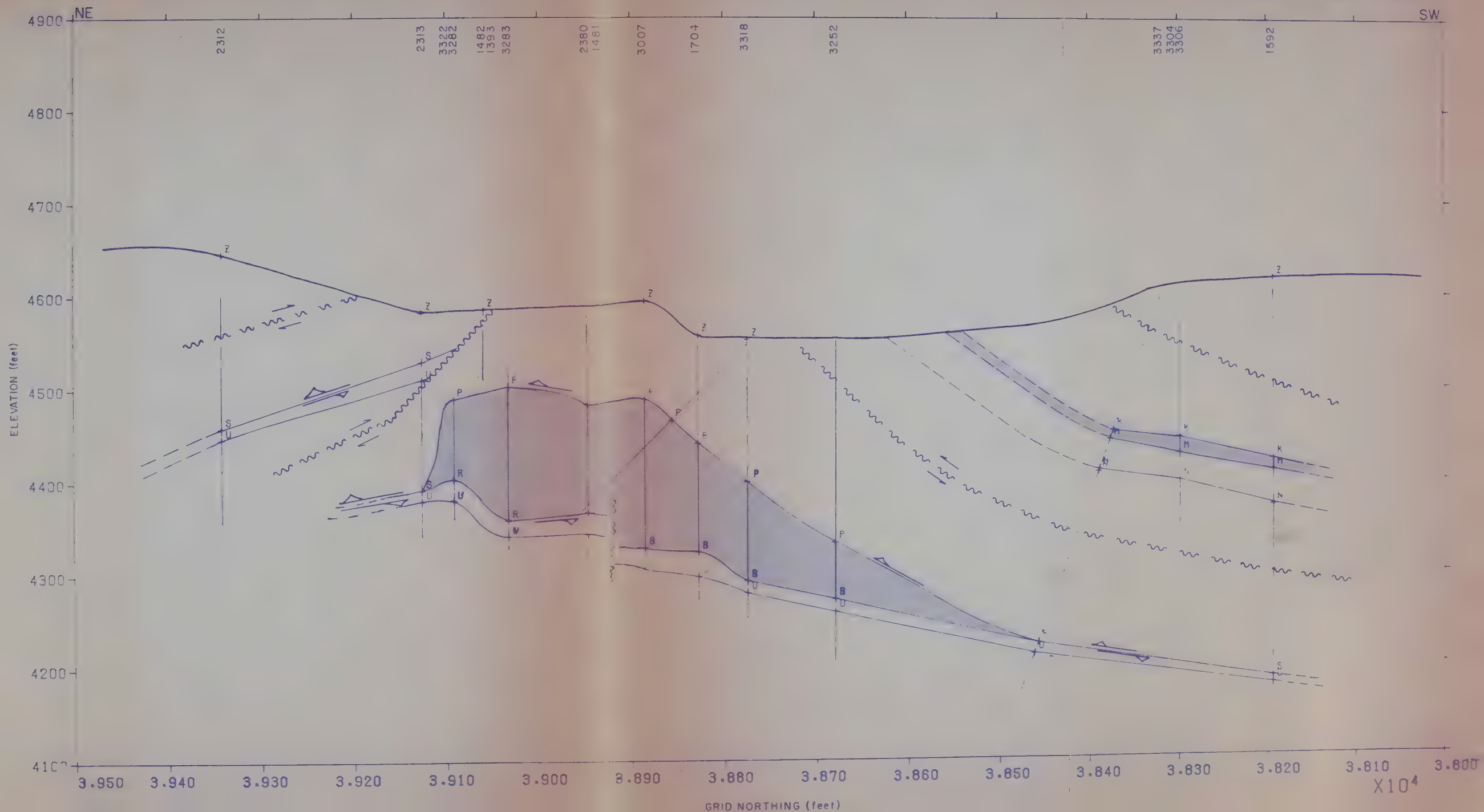
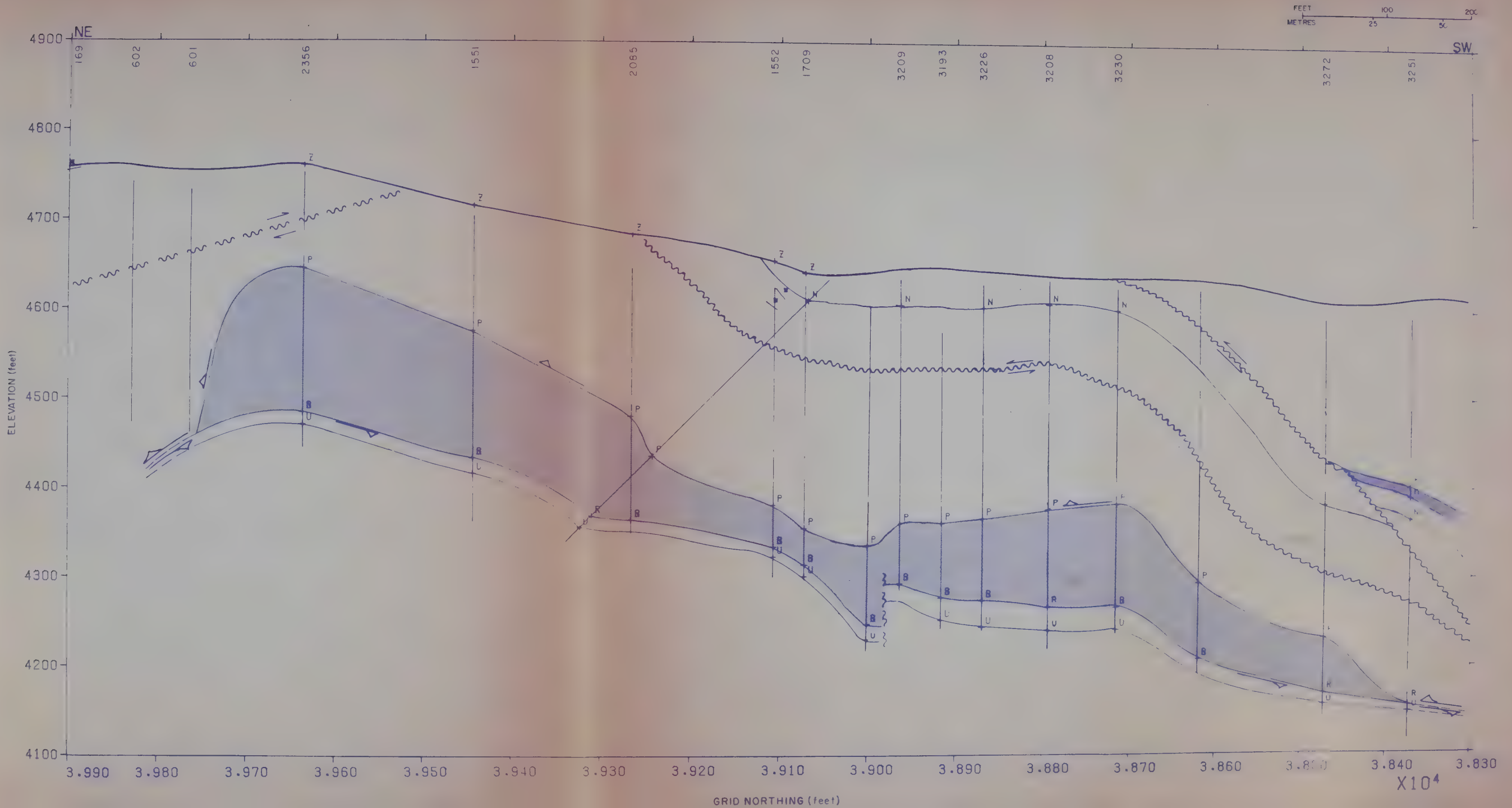






FIGURE 10d  
CROSS-SECTION D-D'  
GRID EASTING 77500



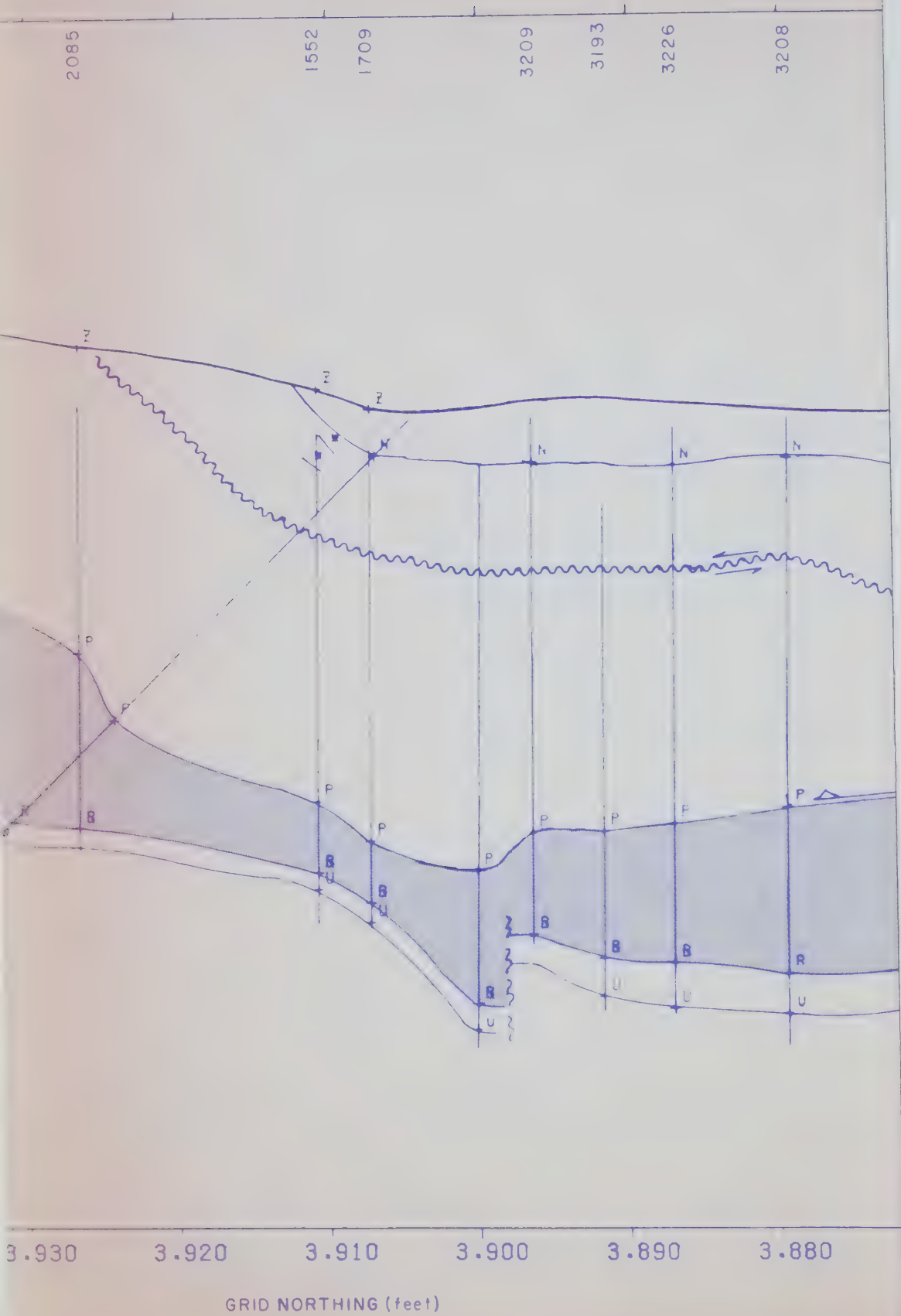


FIGURE 10e  
CROSS-SECTION E-E'  
GRID EASTING 82000

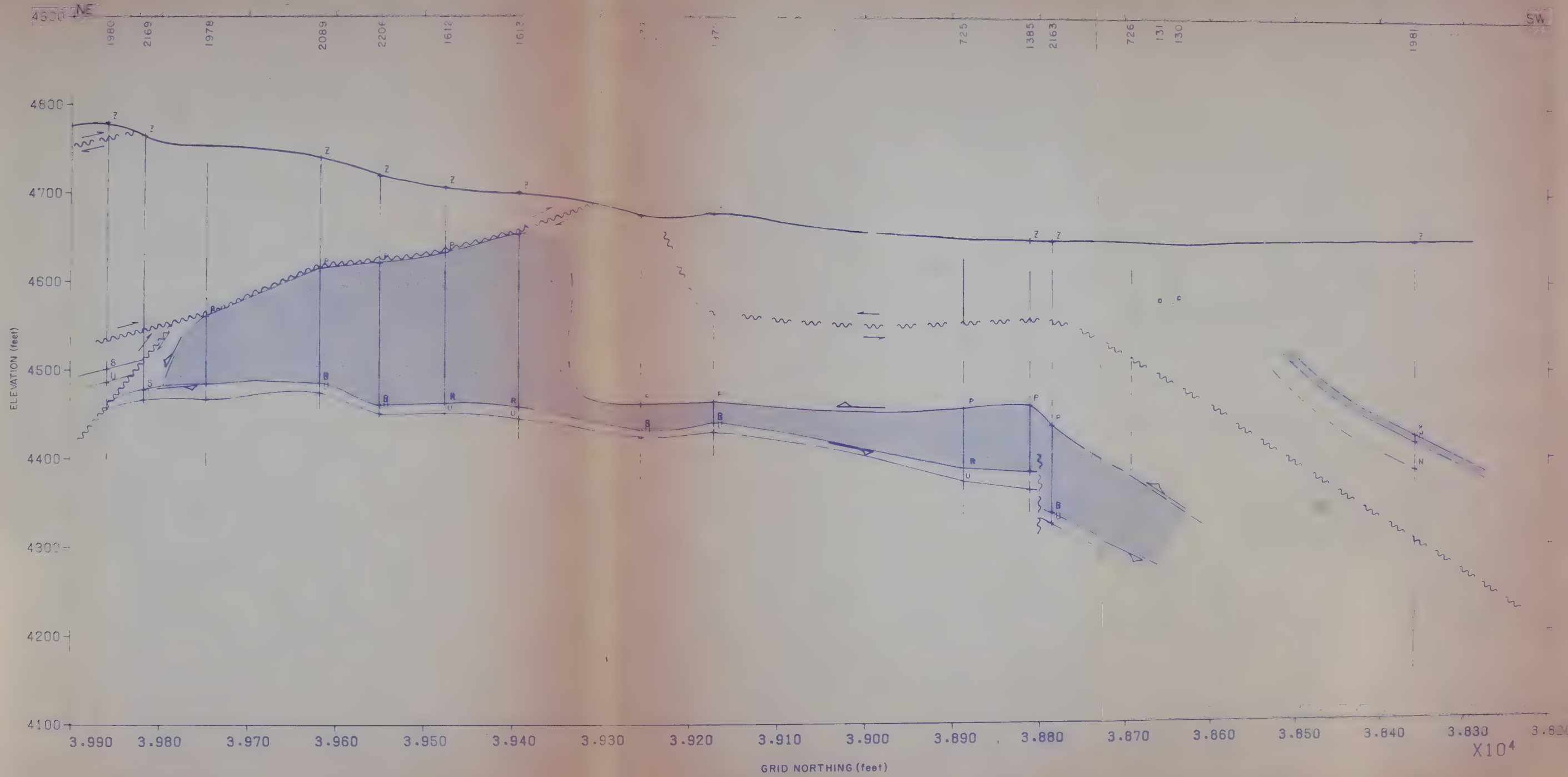
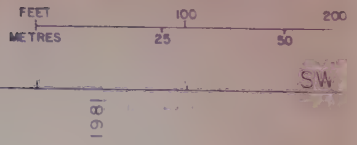
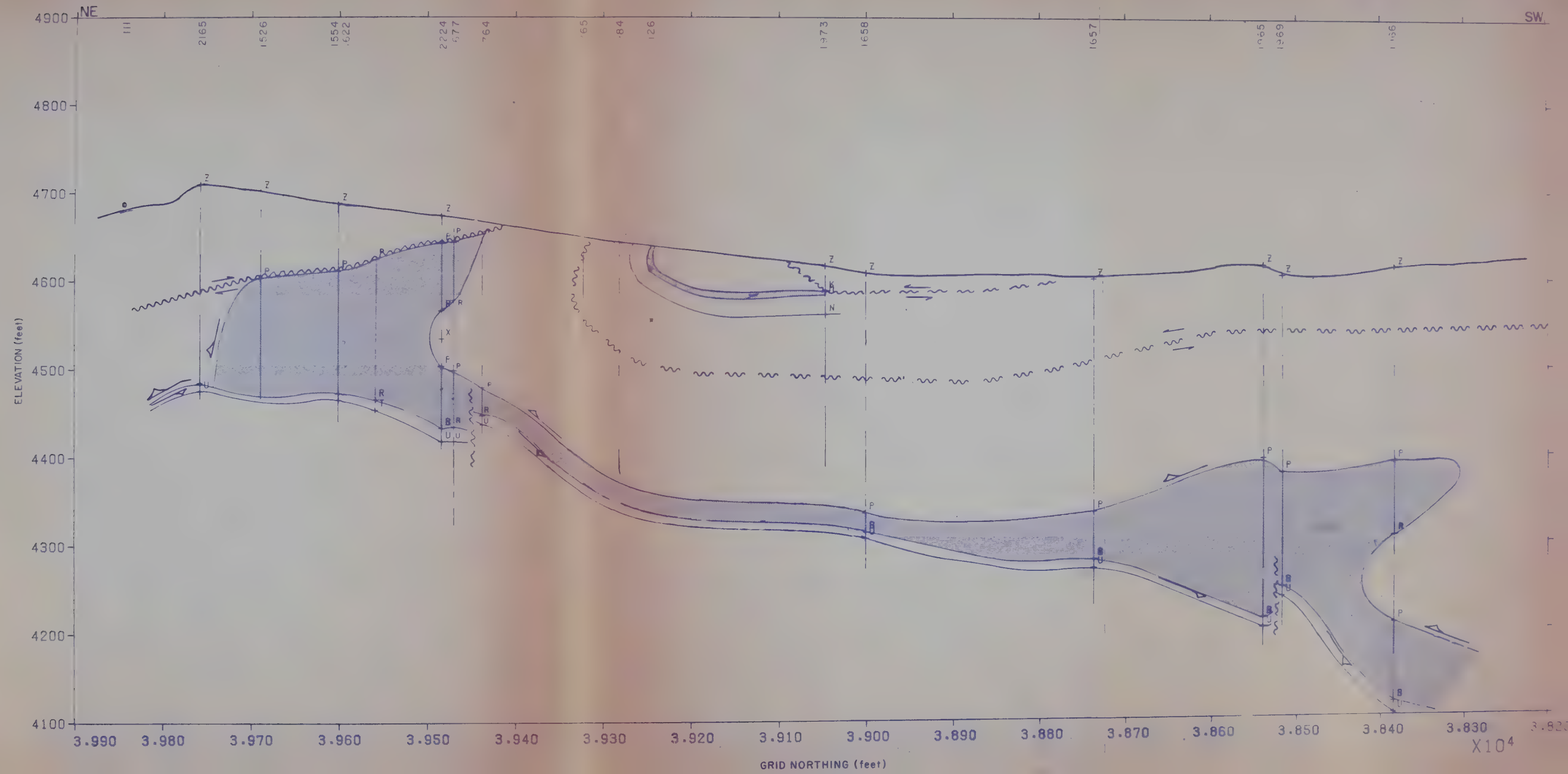




FIGURE 10f  
CROSS-SECTION F-F'  
GRID EASTING 83000







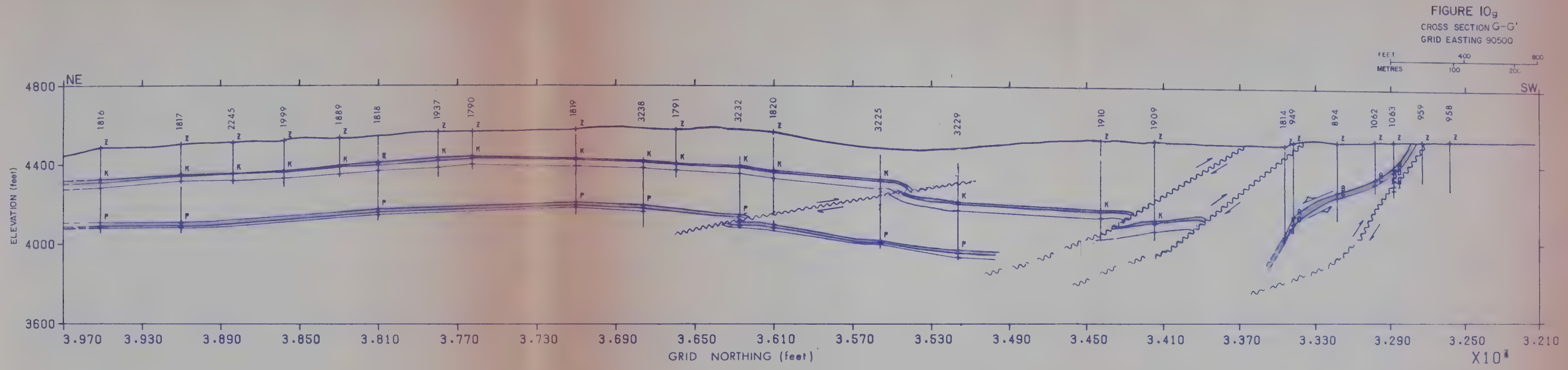
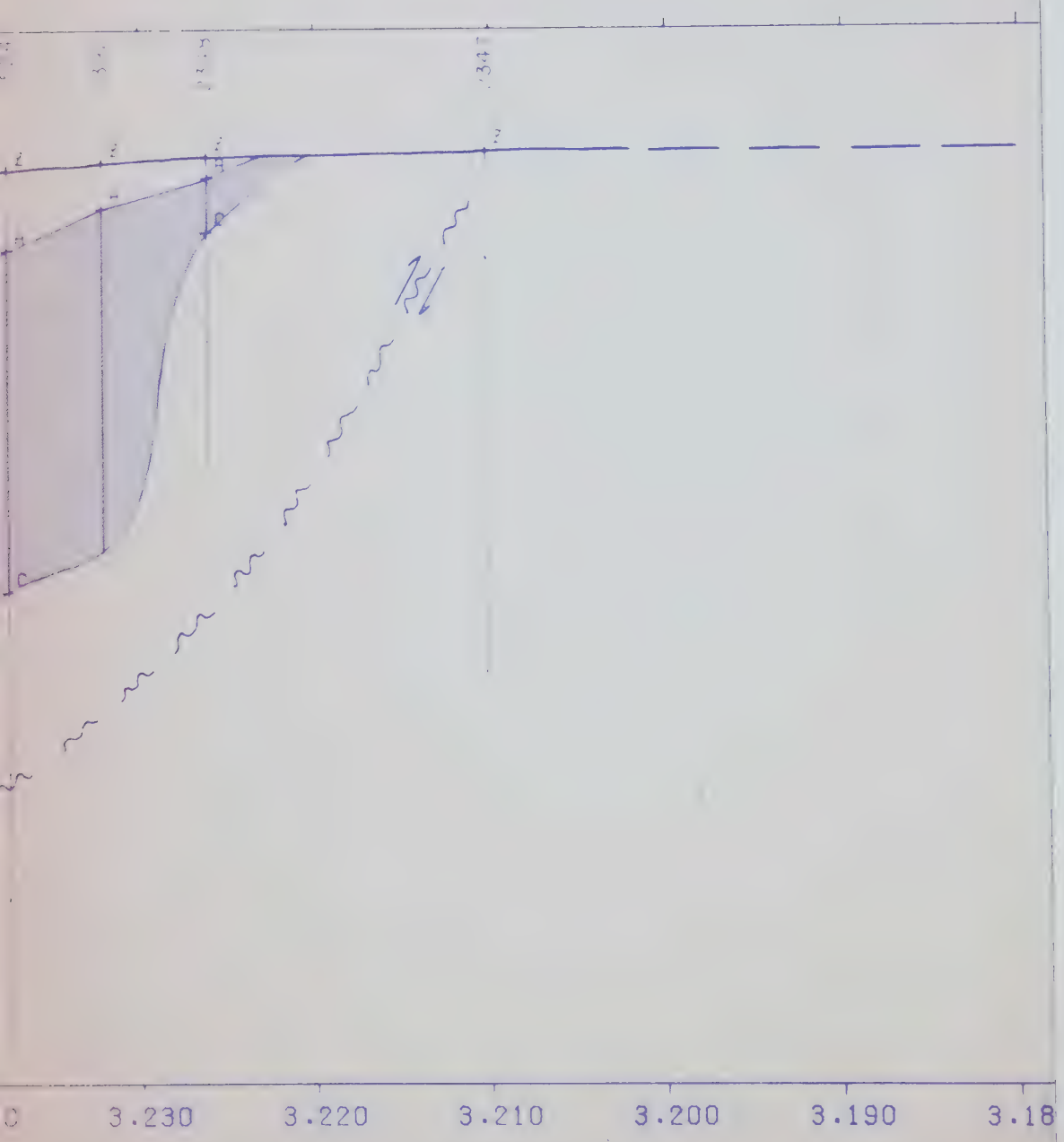






FIGURE 10h  
CROSS-SECTION H-H'  
GRID EASTING 91800



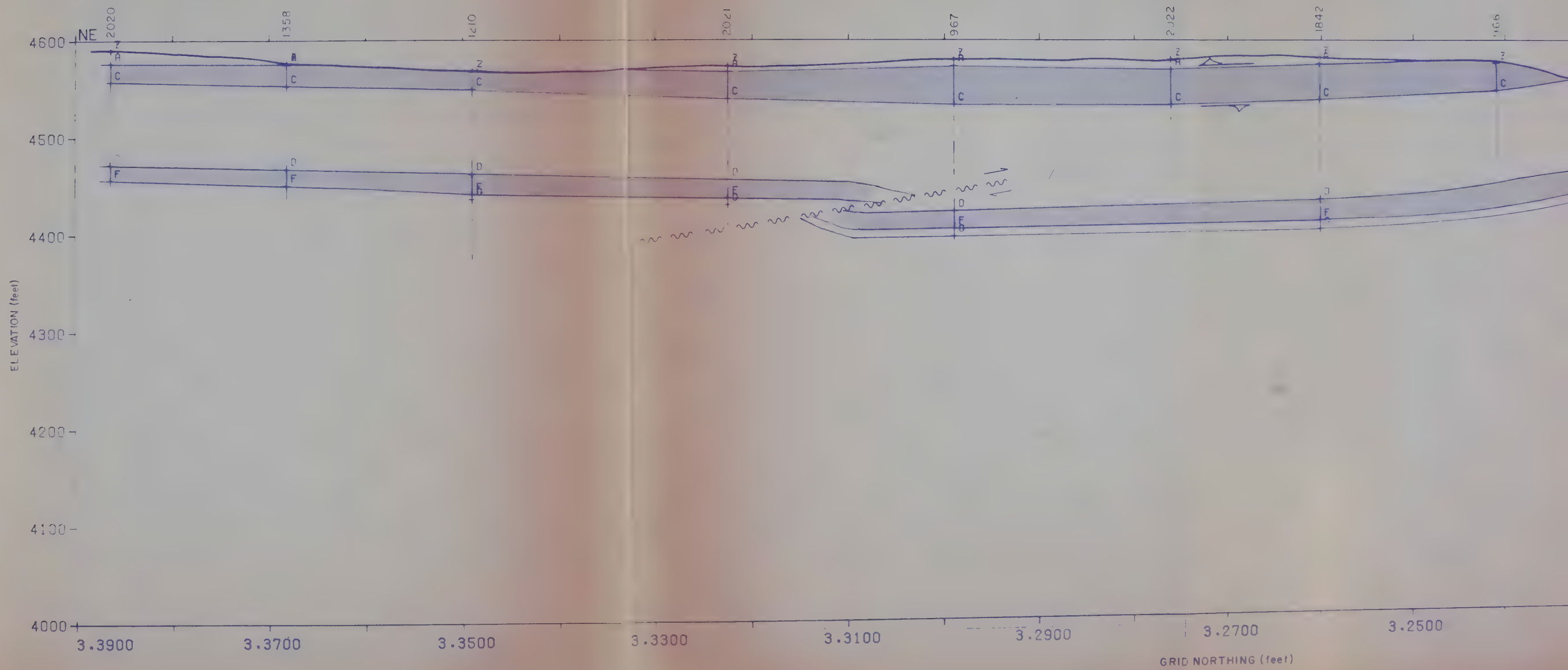
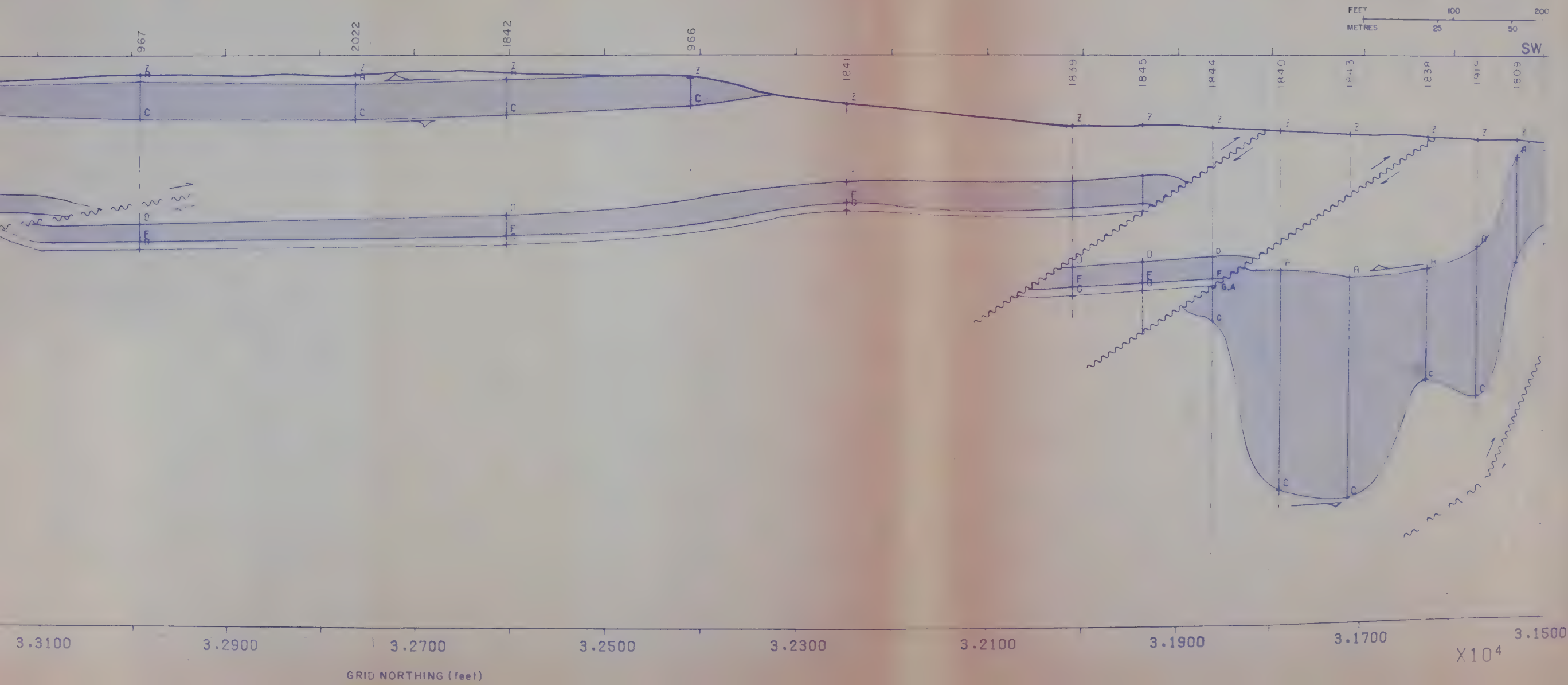


FIGURE 10i  
CROSS-SECTION 1-1'  
GRID EASTING 94230



10 i  
ON 1-1'  
94230

200

50

SW

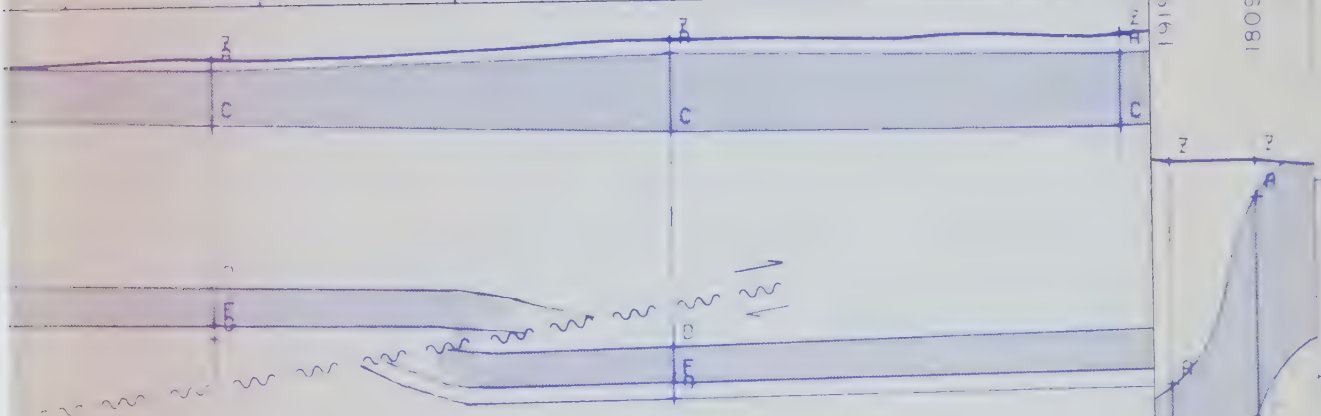
1919

1809

2022

967

2021



3.3300

3.3100

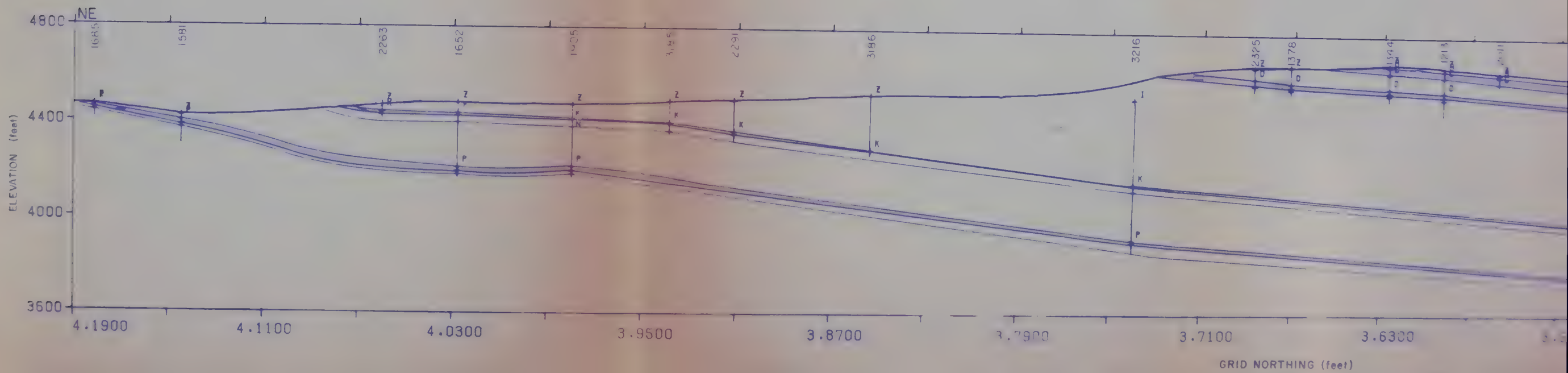
3.2900

3.1500

10<sup>4</sup>

GRID





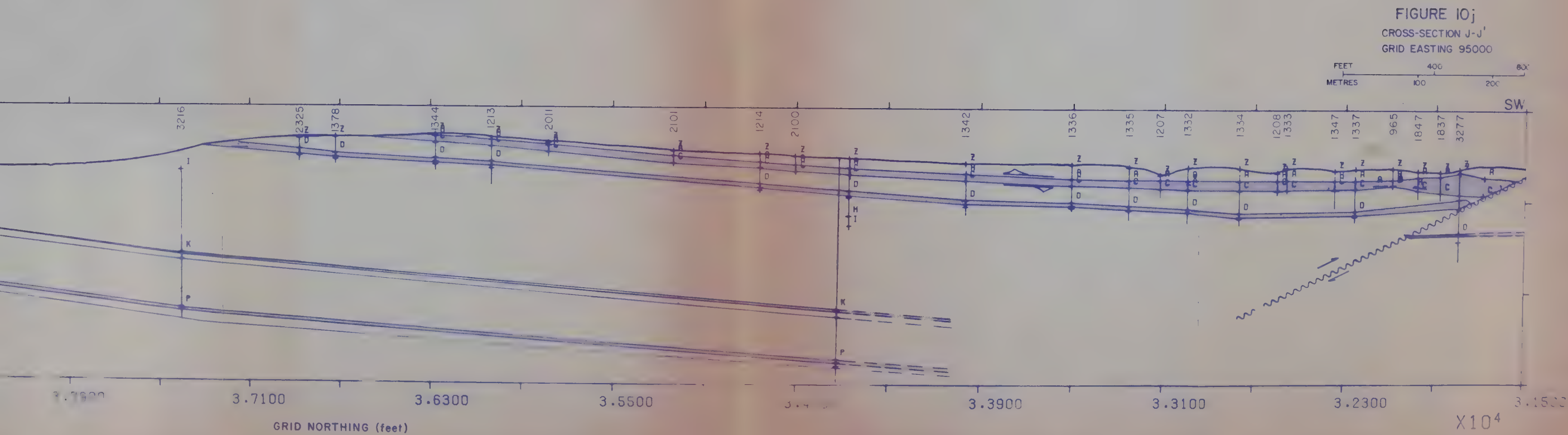
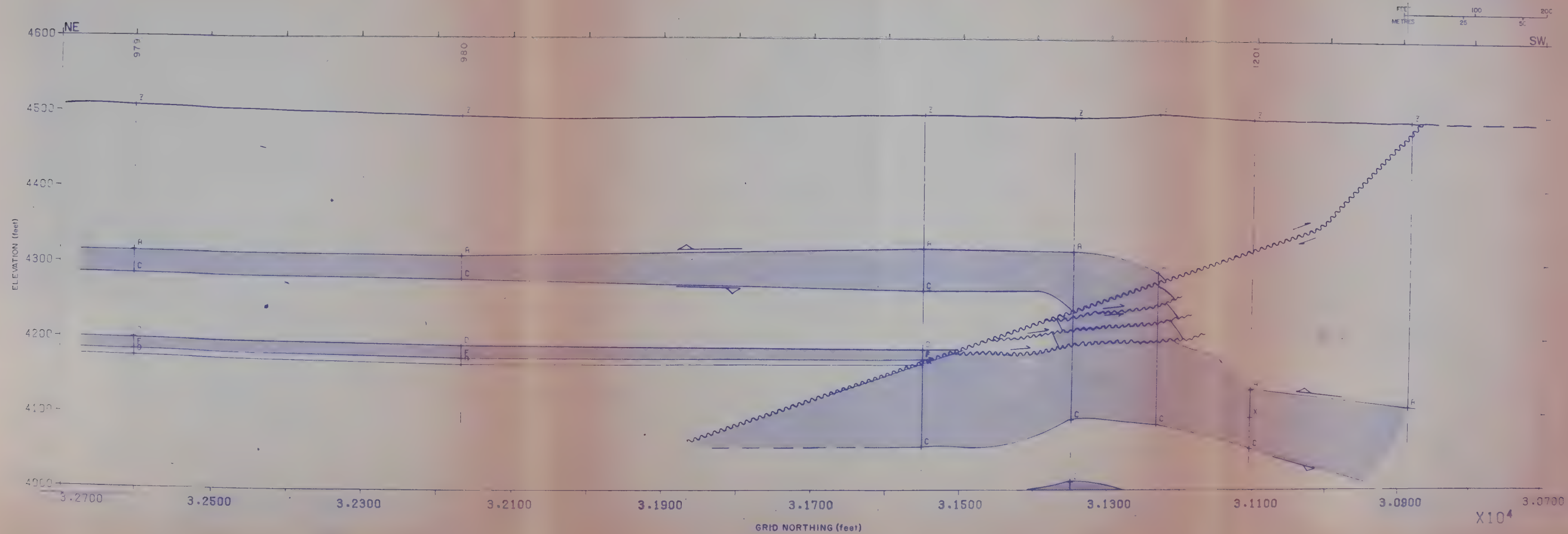


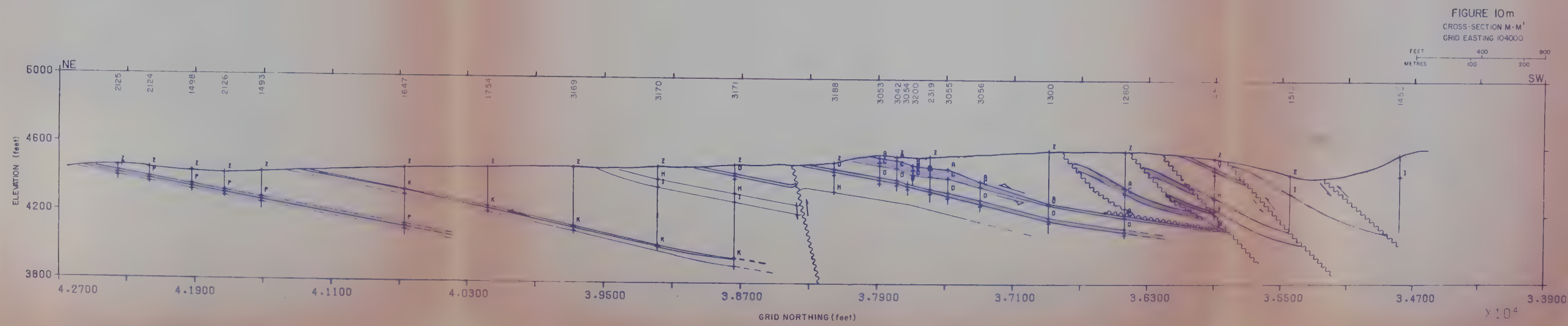
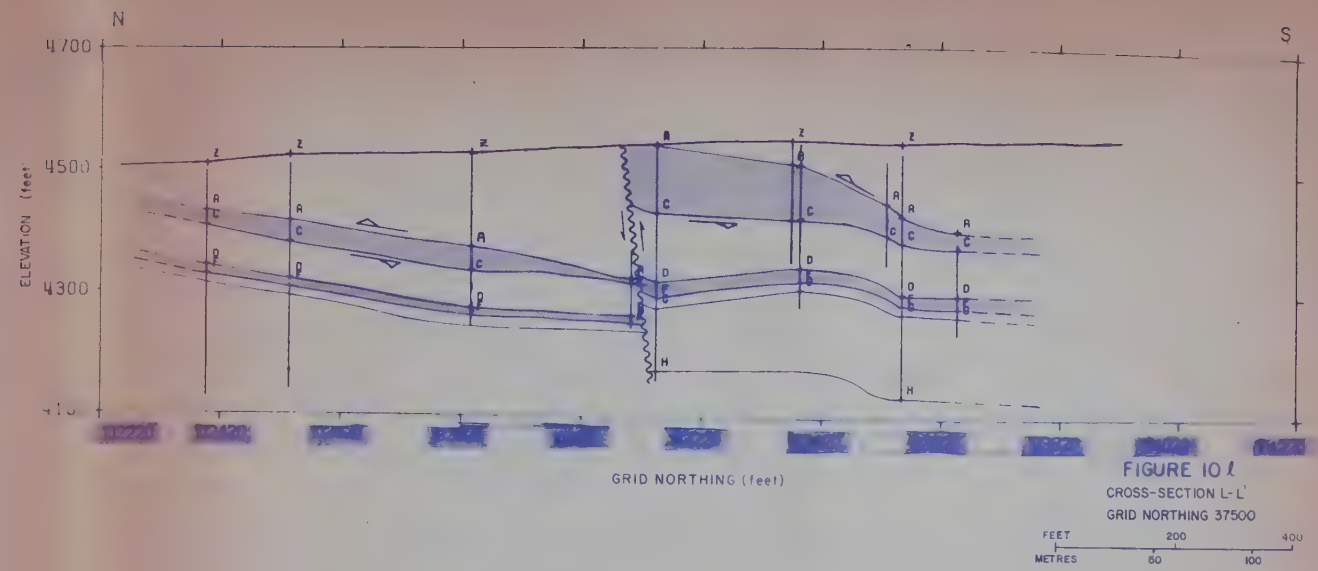




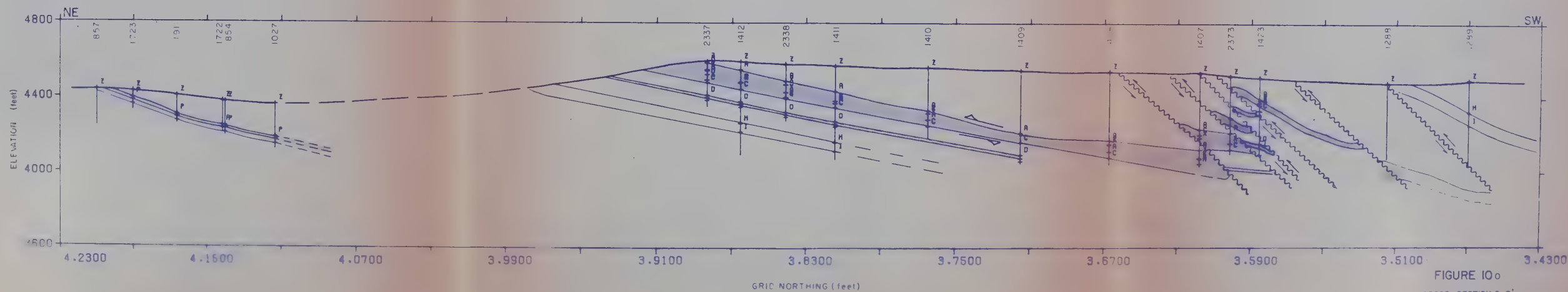
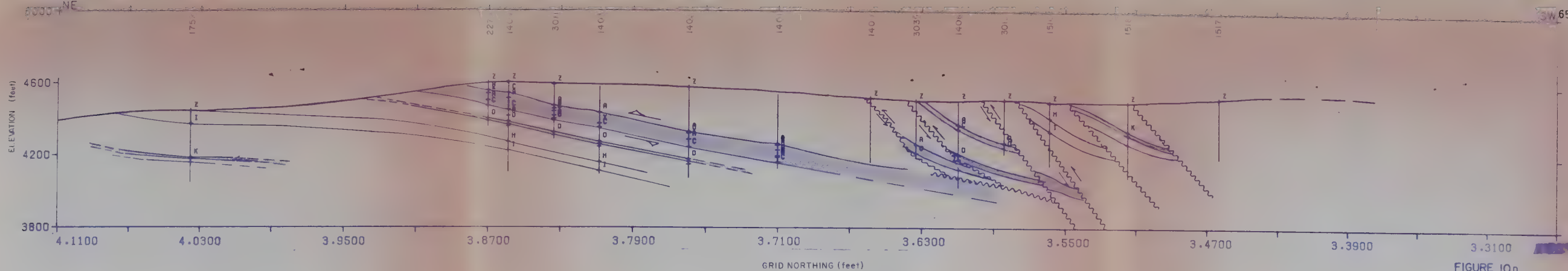
FIGURE 10k  
CROSS-SECTION K-K'  
GRID EASTING 96780















## List of References

- Alexander, F. J. 1977. Structural geology of the Luscar-Sterco Mynheer A Zone, Coal Valley, Alberta. Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, University of Alberta, 72 p.
- Allan, J. A. 1920. Mineral Resources of Alberta, 1920: Coalspur-Lovett Area. Scientific and Industrial Research Council of Alberta, Second Annual Report, 1920, pp. 50-56.
- Allan, J. A. and Rutherford, R. L. 1924. Geology along the Blackstone, Brazeau and Pembina Rivers in the Foothills belt, Alberta. Scientific and Industrial Research Council of Alberta, Geology Division, Report 9, 54 p.
- Boyer, S. E. 1978. Structure and Origin of the Grandfather Mountain Window, North Carolina. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, The John Hopkins University, 340 p.
- Charlesworth, H. A. K., Langenberg, C. W. and Ramsden, J. 1976. Determining axes, axial planes and sections of macroscopic folds using computer-based methods. Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences, **13**, pp. 54-65.
- Charlesworth, H. A. K. and Kilby, W.E. 1981. Thrust nappes in the Rocky Mountain Foothills near Mountain Park, Alberta. *In* Thrust and Nappe Tectonics. Edited by A. J. Coward and N. J. Price. Geological Society of London, Special Paper No. 9, pp. 475-482.
- Charlesworth, H. A. K. 1981. Structure of the Coal-bearing and Adjacent Strata near Cadomin, Alberta. Unpublished ERRF Report U-25. Alberta Department of Energy and Natural Resources, 250 p.
- Cruden, D. M. 1968. Methods of calculating the axes of cylindrical folds: a review. Geological Society of America Bulletin, **79**, pp. 143-148.
- Dahlgren, C. D. A. 1970. Structural geology in the eastern margin of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Bulletin of Canadian Petroleum Geology, **18**, pp. 332-406.
- Douglas, R. J. W. 1950. Callum Creek, Langford Creek and Gap Map-Areas, Alberta. Geological Survey of Canada, Memoir 255, 123 p.
- Dowling, D.B. 1909. Coal fields of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in the Foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Geological Survey of Canada Summary Report, 1909, pp. 139-151.
- 1922. Foothills Coal Area. Geological Survey of Canada Summary Report, Part B, 1922, p.101.
- Elliott, D. 1976. The Energy Balance and Deformation Mechanisms of Thrust





- Sheets. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London: Series A, 283, pp. 289-312.
- Elliott, D. and Johnson, M. R. W. 1980. Structural evolution in the northern part of the Moine Thrust belt, NW Scotland. Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh: Earth Sciences, 71, pp. 69-96.
- Fermor, P. R. and Price, R. A. 1976. Imbricate Structures in the Lewis Thrust Sheet around the Cate Creek and Hage Brook Windows, Southeastern British Columbia. Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 76-1B, pp. 7-9.
- Gretener, P. E. 1977. On the Character of Thrust Faults with Particular Reference to the Basal Tongues. Bulletin of Canadian Petroleum Geology, 25, pp. 110-122.
- Hake, B. F., Willis, R. and Addison, C. C. 1942. Folded thrust faults in the Foothills of Alberta. Geological Society of America Bulletin, 53, pp. 292-334.
- Hill, K. C. 1980. Structure and stratigraphy of the Coal-bearing and adjacent strata near Cadomin, Alberta. Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, University of Alberta. 191 p.
- Hume, G. S. 1931. Oil prospects of the Fisher Creek, Two Pine and Birch Ridge Structures, Eastern Foothills of Alberta. Geological Survey of Canada, Summary Report, 1931, part B, pp. 39-57.
- Irish, E. J. W. 1965. Geology of the Rocky Mountain Foothills between latitudes 53°15' and 54°15'. Geological Survey of Canada, Memoir 334, 241 p.
- Jerzykiewicz, T. and McLean, J. R. 1977. Bedded volcanic chert near Coalspur, Central Foothills, Alberta. Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 77-1B, pp. 149-155.
- 1980. Lithostratigraphic and sedimentological framework of coal-bearing Upper Cretaceous and Lower Tertiary Strata, Coal Valley area, Central Alberta Foothills. Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 79-12, 24 p.
- Johnson, G. C. 1979. The Geology of the Weldwood Pod. Unpublished internal report. Luscar Exploration Co. Ltd.
- Kilby, W. 1978. Structural Geology and stratigraphy of the coal-bearing and adjacent strata near Mountain Park, Alberta. Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, University of Alberta, 153 p.
- MacKay, B. R. 1943. Foothills belt of central Alberta, Preliminary Map. Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 43-3, 1 map.
- 1947. Coal Reserves of Canada. Report to the Royal Commission on Coal, 1946.



- 1949. Coal Areas of Alberta. Geological Survey of Canada Atlas, to accompany estimate of coal reserves prepared for the Royal Commission on Coal, 1949.
- McLean, J. R. and Jerzykeiwicz, T. 1978. Cyclicity, tectonics and coal: some aspects of fluvial sedimentology in the Brazeau-Paskapoo Formations, Coal Valley area, Alberta, Canada. *In* *Fluvial Sedimentology*, Edited by A.D. Miall. Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Memoir 5, pp. 441-468.
- Peach, B. N., Horne, J., Gunn, W., Clough, C. T., and Teall, J. J. H. 1907. The Geological Structure of the Northwest Highlands of Scotland. Memoir, Geological Survey of Great Britain.
- Price, R. A., Stott, D. F., Campbell, R. B., Mountjoy, E. W. and Ollerenshaw, N.C. 1977. Athabasca River. Geological Survey of Canada Map 1339A.
- Price, R. A. 1981. The Cordilleran foreland thrust and fold belt in the southern Canadian Rocky Mountains. *In* *Thrust and Nappe Tectonics*, Edited by A. J. Coward and N. J. Price. Geological Society of London, Special Paper No. 9. pp. 427-448.
- Ronaghan, R. 1977. Coal Resources of the Yellowhead Area, Coal Valley, Alberta. Unpublished internal report. Luscar Exploration Ltd.
- Sampson, R.J. 1975. Surface II Graphics System. Series on Spatial Analysis, No.1. Kansas Geological Survey, 240 p.
- Sanderson, J. O. G. 1931. Upper Cretaceous volcanic ash beds in Alberta. Royal Society of Canada Transactions, ser. 3, 25, sec. 4, pp. 61-70.
- Shewchuk, G. M. 1981. Coal Exploration for Underground Mining of the Silkstone (Wee-Bourne) and Mynheer Coal Seams. Unpublished internal report. Luscar Exploration Ltd.
- Stewart, J. S. 1916. Coal Mines of west central Alberta. Geological Survey of Canada Summary Report, 1916, pp. 94-107.



## Appendix 1

## Field Sheet 'A' Codes

WAY-UP

0=unknown  
1=right way up  
2=overturned

STRAT CONTACT

0=none  
1=transitional  
2=abrupt  
3=erosional

OUTCROP TYPE

1=outcrop  
2=open pit  
3=adit  
4=trench

PHOTOS

0=no  
1=yes  
frame number

ROCK SAMPLE

0=none taken  
1=yes

FOSSILS

0=none  
1=molluscs  
2=plant remains  
3=stems  
4=roots  
5=trace fossils

ROCK MODIFIER

1=silty  
2=sandy  
3=pebbly  
4=boulder  
5=calcareous  
6=dolomitic  
7=carbonaceous  
8=fossiliferous

ROCK TYPE

0=shale  
1=mudstone  
2=claystone  
3=siltstone  
4=sandstone  
5=conglomerate  
6= Bentonite  
7=coal  
8=carbonate  
9=ironstone

SORTING

1=poor  
2=moderate  
3=good

DISPERSION

1=dispersed  
2=at top  
3=at middle  
4=at bottom  
5=interbedded

GRAIN SIZE

1=very fine  
2=fine  
3=medium  
4=coarse  
5=very coarse  
6=extremely coarse

WEATHERING

1=recessive  
2=moderate  
3=resistant

BED THICKNESS

1=thinly laminated  
2=thickly laminated  
3=very thinly bedded  
4=thinly bedded  
5=medium bedded  
6=thickly bedded  
7=very thickly bedded

SED. STRUCTURES

1=cross-bedding  
2=graded bedding  
3=contorted bedding  
4=flute casts  
5=ripple marks  
6=flame structure  
7=mud casts  
8=load casts

NOTE: HORIZON codes are on the following page. Fresh and weathered COLOUR codes are based on a sequential numbering of the colours found in the Geological Society of America Rock Color Chart. A listing of the sequential order of these colours can be seen in Appendix 5 (the program O/CFORM). STRATIGRAPHIC DISTANCE is the stratigraphic distance from the outcrop station to a known geological marker horizon. It was not used in this study.



## HORIZON

NOTE: the alphabetic codes correspond to the drillhole primary marker codes (Appendix 2)

A= top of Val D'or coal seam  
 C= bottom of Val D'or coal seam  
 D= top of Arbour coal seam  
 F= bottom of Arbour coal seam  
 G= bentonite marker below Arbour coal seam  
 H= Marker 'A' coal seam  
 I= Marker 'B' coal seam  
 J= bentonite marker below Marker 'B'  
 K= top of Wee coal seam  
 M= bottom of Wee coal seam  
 N= top of Bourne coal seam  
 O= bentonite marker above Mynheer coal seam  
 P= top of Mynheer coal seam  
 R= bottom of Mynheer coal seam  
 S= top of Lower Mynheer coal seam  
 U= bottom of Lower Mynheer coal seam  
 X= fault location  
 Z= topographic surface

0= siltstones above Val D'or coal seam  
 1= sandstone above Val D'or coal seam  
 2= mudstone below Val D'or coal seam  
 3= sandstone above Arbour coal seam  
 4= mudstone above Arbour coal seam  
 5= mudstone above Marker 'A'  
 6= siltstone between Marker 'A' and Marker 'B'  
 7= bentonite and mudstone below Marker 'B'  
 8= sandstone below Marker 'B'  
 9= sandstone above Wee coal seam  
 #= mudstone between Wee and Bourne coal seams  
 \$= mudstone and siltstone below 'O' bentonite  
 \*= sandstone above Mynheer coal seam  
 &= siltstone below Lower Mynheer carbonaceous mudstones  
 += strata below Lower Mynheer carbonaceous mudstones





## Appendix 2

### Drillhole B Sheet Code System

A coding system for use with Drillhole B sheets (Fig. 3) was devised in order to facilitate computer retrieval of depth to specific marker horizons, total seam thicknesses, individual parting thicknesses and thicknesses of various lithologic units for structural, sedimentological and coal quality analyses. The codes are entered in columns 5–7

*Column 5* contains the *lithologic code* if the marker represents only a lithology change and not a stratigraphic pick, otherwise it contains the *primary marker code*.

*Column 6* contains the *secondary marker code* or is left blank if column 5 contains a lithologic code.

*Column 7* contains the *top-bottom marker code* if column 6 contains a secondary marker code, otherwise it is left blank.

#### *Lithologic Codes*

This code is always numeric and appears only in column 5. If a lithologic code is entered columns 6 and 7 are blank. The depth parameter (columns 8–13) represents the bottom of the lithologic unit. The code is given below.

- 1= sandstone
- 2= siltstone
- 3= mudstone
- 4= bentonite
- 5= carbonaceous mudstone
- 6= conglomerate
- 7= coal
- 8= shale
- 9= bentonitic mudstone

Where a pick on a geophysical log represents the change from a specific lithology to the top of a stratigraphic marker there will be two B entries for the same depth. In this case the first B entry will represent the lithology encountered above that depth and the second B entry designates this depth as the top of the marker.



## Marker Codes

The primary marker code is alphabetic. It is entered in Column 5 and is only one character in length if the marker is of negligible thickness, but if its thickness is of economic significance then a *secondary marker code* and *top-bottom code* are entered in Columns 6 and 7. These secondary codes are important for the economic evaluation of coal seams.

### The Primary Marker Code

A= top of Val D'or coal seam  
 B= tops and bottoms of Val D'or units  
 C= bottom of Val D'or coal seam  
 D= top of Arbour coal seam  
 E= tops and bottoms of Arbour units  
 F= bottom of Arbour coal seam  
 G= top of bentonite below Arbour coal seam  
 H= Marker 'A' top  
 I= Marker 'B' top  
 J= bentonite 30ft. above Wee coal seam  
 K= top of Wee coal seam  
 L= tops and bottoms of Wee units  
 M= bottom of Wee coal seam  
 N= top of Bourne coal seam  
 O= bentonite 35ft. below Bourne coal seam  
 P= top of Mynheer coal seam  
 R= bottom of Mynheer coal seam  
 S= top of Lower Mynheer carbonaceous mudstones  
 T= top of Lower Mynheer carbonaceous mudstones  
 U= bottom of Lower Mynheer carbonaceous mudstones  
 X= fault location  
 Z= topographic surface

### Secondary Marker Code

This code is entered in Column 6, is alphabetic, and corresponds to the coal horizon nomenclature used by Luscar Exploration. For instance, the Val D'or seam has been divided into 9 units labelled Val D'or (A-I) and similarly for the Arbour (A-D) and the Wee (A-C). This code enables the computer to decide upon thicknesses for these coal seam units. The Mynheer coal seam and the Lower Mynheer marker bed are given a secondary code of 'A' because it has not been possible to subdivide them into specific units. In these two instances only partings in the seams or pods which are greater than 2 feet thick have been coded. These partings are given lithologic rather than marker codes.

### Top-Bottom Marker Code

This code is entered in Column 7 and either a '1' or a '2'. A '1' designates the pick as being the top of a marker unit within a specific seam whereas a '2' designates the pick as being the bottom of such a unit. A computer routine designed to scan for a 2 and then a 1 and then subtract the appropriate depth values associated with each will give the thickness of a parting within a seam.

Where a fault was located within a seam that repeated all or part of that seam, successive drillhole 'B' sheet entries have repeated marker codes with only the *top-bottom code* changing from a 1 to a 2 and back again. NOTE: The bottom of the Bourne seam and other thin unnamed coal beds are coded with the lithologic code '7'.



### Appendix 3

#### The Luscar-Sterco Coal Valley Mine Grid

The Coal Valley mine grid is oriented such that mine northings are approximately parallel to the regional strike of the strata. The grid is consistent through the entire mine lease and is in *feet* not *metres*. The bearing of the grid northing line is  $45^{\circ} 44' 21''$  east of true north.

The origin of the grid is not located within the mine lease. A reference point which is within the mine lease is the southeast corner of Legal subdivision 7– Township 47– Range 19– West of the 5th Meridian, which has a grid northing of 33,392.35 and a grid easting of 95,044.07.



## Appendix 4

## Format of Raw Data File R1

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
	<b>First line</b>
	<u>OUTCROP DESCRIPTION</u>
1-4	outcrop station number
5-7	type/number- a code for use in TRIPOD
8	horizon code
9	way-up code
10-25	easting, northing and elevation of outcrop station
26-29	stratigraphic distance from a known horizon
30-33	airphoto number
34	stratigraphic contact at outcrop?
35	outcrop type
36-38	photos taken and frame number
39	rock sample taken?
40-43	fossils present
	<u>MAJOR LITHOLOGY DESCRIPTION</u>
44-46	% of outcrop represented by lithology
47-48	modifier and lithology type
49	grain size
50	sorting
51	weathering characteristics
52	bed thickness
53-55	fresh colour
56-58	weathered colour
59-61	sedimentary structures
	<u>1st MINOR LITHOLOGY DESCRIPTION</u>
62-63	% of outcrop represented by lithology
	<b>Second line</b>
1	dispersion of 1st minor lithology in outcrop
2-17	same as lines 47-61 above
	<u>2nd MINOR LITHOLOGY DESCRIPTION</u>
18-19	% of outcrop represented by lithology
20	dispersion of 2nd minor lithology in outcrop
21-36	same as 47-61 in line 1





## Format of Raw Data File R2

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	outcrop number
5	structural type: planar or folded bedding, faults, or joints
6-7	number: given to each joint set, otherwise blank
8-10	pitch of slickenside striae
11	sense of slickenside striae: whether up or down
12-17	dip direction and dip of the axial trace of fold
18-77	up to 10 readings, in terms of dip-direction and dip of fault, joint, folded or planar bedding

## Format of Raw Data File R3

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	drillhole number
5-20	grid easting, northing and elevation of the drillhole collar
21-26	trend and plunge of the drillhole
27-30	geophysical logging tools used: 1=yes, 0=no for caliper, gamma, resistance and density, respectively
31-36	date drillhole logged (day,month,year)
37-40	logged depth
41-44	depth to bedrock
45-47	fluid level depth
48-51	drilled depth
52-55	lease area code: CV=Coal Valley Mine SB=Silkstone 'B' VA=Val D'or 'A' VB=Val D'or 'B' W=Weldwood WP=Weldwood Pod MA=Mynheer 'A' MB=Mynheer 'B'



### Format of Raw Data File R4

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	drillhole number
5-7	marker and lithologic codes (see Appendix 1)
8-13	down-hole depth of associated marker or lithology

### Format of Preliminary Data File F1

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	outcrop station number
5-7	'000', a code for use in TRIPOD
8	horizon code (see Appendix 1)
9	way-up code (see Appendix 1)
10-25	easting, northing and elevation of the outcrop station

### Format of Preliminary Data File F2

The format of the preliminary data file F2 is exactly the same as that of the raw data file R2.



### Format of Preliminary Data File F2A

The format of the preliminary data file F2A is the same as file F2 and file R2 except that the dip-directions and trends of structural elements have all had 46° subtracted from them in order to perform projections and rotations when referring to the Coal Valley mine grid rather than true north (see Appendix 1).

### Format of Preliminary Data File F3

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	drillhole number
5	'8', a code used in TRIPOD
6-7	null character, required in TRIPOD
8-23	mine grid easting, northing and elevation of the drillhole collar
24-29	trend and plunge of the drillhole
30-33	logged depth
34-37	depth to bedrock

### Format of Preliminary Data File F4

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-4	drillhole number
5	'9', a code for use in TRIPOD
6-7	a consecutive number assigned to each down-hole pick, for use in TRIPOD
8	marker code (see Appendix 3)
9-14	down-hole depth of associated marker



**Format of file TRACES**

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Description</u>
1–15	mine grid easting, northing and elevation of the topography–trace intersection point
16–17	not used
18–19	a numeric code which is assigned to each fault, fold and marker horizon which intersects the topographic surface





## Appendix 5

### The Preliminary Processing Program R1ED

```

1      C      INPUT
2      C
3      C      The outcrop 'A' cards of the Raw Data File R1: two
4      C      cards for each outcrop station.
5      C
6      C      OUTPUT
7      C
8      C      Re-formatted 'A' cards, now the Preliminary Data File F1:
9      C      one card or line for each outcrop station.
10     C
11     C      INTEGER E,N
12     5      READ(5,10,END=99) OC,TNUM,HRZN,WUP,E,N,EL,DIS
13     10     FORMAT(A4,A3,A1,A1,2I6,2A4/)
14     WRITE(6,20) OC,TNUM,HRZN,WUP,E,N,EL,DIS
15     20     FORMAT(A4,A3,A1,A1,2I6,2A4)
16     GO TO 5
17     99     STOP
18     END

```



# The Preliminary Processing Program R1CON

```

1      C      INPUT
2      C
3      C      Outcrop 'A' cards of the Raw Data File R1 which have UTM
4      C      coordinates rather than mine grid coordinates.
5      C
6      C      OUTPUT
7      C
8      C      Outcrop 'A' cards with mine grid coordinates
9      C
10     C      PROCEDURE
11     C
12     C      A control point with known true easting, true northing, grid
13     C      easting and grid northing coordinates, along with the angle
14     C      between the grids (in grads) are used to refer and rotate the
15     C      true grid to the mine grid.
16     C
17     C      INTEGER EL,TE,TN
18     C      DATA THETA/.7982945/
19     1 READ(5,2,END=99) TE,TN,EL
20     2 FORMAT(I6,I6,I4)
21     C      TEO=TE-45581.05
22     C      TNO=TN-303171.58
23     C      GEO=(TEO*COS(THETA))-(TNO*SIN(THETA))
24     C      GNO=(TEO*SIN(THETA))+(TNO*COS(THETA))
25     5 GE=GEO+76784.24
26     C      GN=GNO+40191.47
27     C      WRITE(6,3) GE,GN,EL
28     3 FORMAT(2F12.5,2X,I4)
29     C      GO TO 1
30     99 STOP
31     C      END

```



### The Preliminary Processing Program R2CON

```

1      C      INPUT
2      C
3      C      Outcrop 'B' cards of the Raw Data File R2A
4      C
5      C      OUTPUT
6      C
7      C      Outcrop 'B' cards of the Preliminary Data File R2, which are
8      C      amenable for use with a mine grid rather than a true north grid.
9      C
10     C      PROCEDURE
11     C
12     C      46 degrees is subtracted from the trend of the axial trace and from
13     C      the dip-directions of bedding, joint and fault measurements. This
14     C      results are the grid north bearings rather than true north bearings.
15     C      Checks are made for no further data on the card and for no axial
16     C      trace data.
17     C
18     C      INTEGER BRNG(22)
19     C      5 READ(5,10,END=99) OC,TYP,NUM,PIT,SEN,(BRNG(I),I=1,22)
20     C      10 FORMAT(A4,A1,A2,A3,A1,22I3)
21     C      DO 20 I=1,22,2
22     C      IF(BRNG(I).EQ.0.AND.BRNG(I+1).EQ.0.AND.BRNG(I+2).EQ.0.AND.BRNG
23     C      &(I+3).EQ.0) GO TO 30
24     C      IF(BRNG(I).LT.46) BRNG(I)=BRNG(I)+360
25     C      BRNG(I)=BRNG(I)-46
26     C      20 CONTINUE
27     C      30 N=I-1
28     C      IF(BRNG(1).EQ.314) GO TO 40
29     C      WRITE(6,10) OC,TYP,NUM,PIT,SEN,(BRNG(I),I=1,N)
30     C      GO TO 5
31     C      40 WRITE(6,11) OC,TYP,NUM,PIT,SEN,(BRNG(I),I=3,N)
32     C      11 FORMAT(A4,A1,A2,A3,A1,6X,20I3)
33     C      GO TO 5
34     C      99 STOP
35     C      END

```

### The Preliminary Processing Program R3ED

```

1      C      INPUT
2      C
3      C      Drillhole 'A' cards from the Raw Data File R3
4      C
5      C      OUTPUT
6      C
7      C      Drillhole 'A' cards of the Preliminary Data File F3
8      C
9      C      INTEGER DHN,E,N,EL,T,P,LOG,DAT,TD,LD,WT,OB
10     C      2 READ(5,4,END=10) DHN,E,N,EL,T,P,LOG,DAT,TD,OB,WT,LD,PC,AC
11     C      4 FORMAT(G4,2G6,G4,2G3,G4,G6,G4,2G3,G4,A2,A2)
12     C      WRITE(6,6) DHN,E,N,EL,T,P,LD,OB,WT,TD,LOG,DAT,AC
13     C      6 FORMAT(G4,'B',2X,2G6,G4,2G3,G4,G3,8X,G3,G4,G5,G6,2X,A2)
14     C      GO TO 2
15     C      10 STOP
16     C      END

```



# The Preliminary Processing Program R4ED

```

1      C      INPUT
2      C
3      C      The drillhole 'B' cards of the Raw Data File R4
4      C
5      C      OUTPUT
6      C
7      C      Only those 'B' cards which represent significant
8      C      stratigraphic markers useful for structural studies.
9      C      This output becomes the Preliminary Data File F4.
10     C
11     C      PROCEDURE
12     C
13     C      The stratigraphic markers are represented by codes
14     C      (see Appendix 1 ). These codes are placed in a Data
15     C      statement and are scanned for when each card is read. If one
16     C      or more of these codes are found in a specific drillhole
17     C      The codes are consecutively numbered and are printed
18     C      in a format amenable to the TRIPOD package. Cards which
19     C      do not contain the required codes are not in the output list.
20     DIMENSION STRA(18)
21     INTEGER DHN,NUM,D
22     DATA STRA/'A','C','D','F','G','H','I','J','K','M','N',
23     *'O','P','R','S','U','X','Z'/,NUM/0/,DHN/1/
24     2  READ(5,4,END=20) DHN,CODE,DEP
25     4  FORMAT(G4,A1,2X,F5.1)
26     DO 8 J=1,17
27     6  IF(CODE.EQ.STRA(J)) GO TO 10
28     8  CONTINUE
29     GO TO 2
30     10 IF(DHN.NE.D) NUM=0
31     NUM=NUM+1
32     WRITE(6,12) DHN,NUM,CODE,DEP
33     D=DHN
34     12 FORMAT(G4,'9',G2,A1,F6.1)
35     GO TO 2
36     20 STOP
37     END
END OF FILE

```





## Format of the Field Sheet A Processing Program O/CFORM

Written and copyright by: Desmond Wynne, Department of Geology, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

The purpose of this program is to write out a legible one page form of data concerning each outcrop station. Input to this program is the file R1 which contains the coded outcrop data from the A field sheets. The program essentially decodes and re-formats file R1. A sample output is listed on page 87.

The main FORTRAN calling program is:

```

1      LOGICAL*1 INPUT(122)
2      10 READ(5,30,END=20) INPUT
3      CALL FORM(INPUT)
4      GO TO 10
5      20 STOP
6      30 FORMAT(63A1)
7      END

```

The IBM Assembler Language Program is:

1	FORM	CSECT	61	AR	4,11
2	*		62	ST	4,DATA+16
3	*	CALL FORM(DATA)	63	*	
4	*		64	SR	5,5
5		USING *,12	65	IC	5,DATA+1
6		STM 14,12,12(13)	66	*	
7		LR 12,15	67	* GR3 - CONTAINS THE INDEX TO THE LINE TYPE	
8		LA 11,SAVE	68	* GR4 - CONTAINS THE ADDRESS OF THE DATA ITEM	
9		ST 11,8(13)	69	* GR5 - CONTAINS THE INDEX TO THE CSECTS	
10		ST 13,4(11)	70	*	
11		LR 13,11	71	BRANCH	B *(3)
12	*		72	B	LINE1
13		NI 0(1),X'7F'	73	B	LINE2
14		L 11,0(1)	74	B	LINE3
15	*		75	B	LINE4
16		MVI TEXT,C'1'	76	B	LINE5
17		MVI LEN,X'00'	77	B	LINE6
18		MVI LEN+1,X'01'	78	B	LINE7
19		BAL 10,OUTPUT	79	B	LINE8
20		MVI TEXT,C'-'	80	B	LINE9
21		BAL 10,OUTPUT	81	B	LINE10
22	*		82	*	
23		L 2,=F'-8'	83	LINE1	B FDMAT
24	NEXT	A 2,=F'8'	84	*	
25		C 2,=F'344'	85	LINE2	BAL 10,GETSTR
26		BH FINI	86	B	FORMAT
27	*		87	*	
28		C 2,=F'96'	88	LINE3	CLI 0(4),C' '
29		BNE TL2	89	UNHDR	BE UNHDR
30		CLC BLANK(2),62(11)	90	B	DATA+8,X'01'
31		BNE TL2	91	FORMAT	B FORMAT
32		LA 2,150(2)	92	UNHDR	MVI DATA+8,X'07'
33	TL2	C 2,=F'176'	93	LA	4,UNKN
34		BNE GTDATA	94	ST	4,DATA+16
35		CLC BLANK(2),81(11)	95	B	FORMAT
36		BNE GTDATA	96	*	
37		LA 2,80(2)	97	LINE4	MVC LDATA(5),0(4)
38	*		98	B	LITHOL
39	GTDATA	MVI DATA,X'00'	99	*	
40		MVC DATA+1(19),DATA	100	LINE5	MVC NUM+9(3),0(4)
41	*		101	L	0,NUM+8
42		L 9,=V(INDEX)	102	D	0,=X'FOFOFOFO'
43		LA 3,0(2,8)	103	ST	0,NUM+8
44		MVC DATA(8),0(3)	104	PACK	NUM(8),NUM+8(4)
45	*		105	CVB	0,NUM
46		SR 3,3	106	STC	0,0(4)
47		IC 3,DATA+1	107	B	LINE2
48		SRL 3,7	108	*	
49		STC 3,DATA+8	109	LINE6	MVI LDATA,C' '
50		NI DATA+1,X'7F'	110	MVC	LDATA+1(2),0(4)
51	*		111	MVC	LDATA+3(2),3(4)
52		IC 3,DATA	112	B	LITHOL
53		STC 3,DATA+8	113	*	
54		NI DATA+8,X'0F'	114	LINE7	MVI MAX+3,X'02'
55		SRL 3,4	115	L7L8	5,6
56		STC 3,DATA	116	SR	7,7
57		SLL 3,2	117	LA	8,STRING
58	*		118	LR	8,8
59		SR 4,4	119	TEST	CLI 0(4),C' '
60		IC 4,DATA+7	120	BE	TNEXT
			121	CLI	0(4),C'0'



122		BE	TNEXT	234	C	5,0(6)
123		BAL	10,GETSTR	235	BNP	ITEMOK
124		IC	6,DATA+8	236	MVI	DATA+8,X'00'
125		STC	6,MOVEC+1	237	LM	5,8,SAVS8
126		L	1,DATA+16	238	BR	10
127	MOVEC	MVC	0(0,8),0(1)	238	ITEMOK	LA 5,2(5)
128		LA	8,1(6,8)	240		LA 6,4(6)
129	TNEXT	LA	7,1(7)	241	LR	7,6
130		C	7,MAX	242	SR	8,6
131		BH	ENDL7	243	NEXTC	LA 6,1(8)
132		LA	4,1(4)	244	TESTC	0(7),C','
133		B	TEST	245	BE	FOUNDC
134	ENDL7	SR	8,9	246	LA	7,1(7)
135		BZ	NO	247	B	TESTC
136		BCTR	8,0	248	FOUNDC	CR 5,8
137		STC	8,DATA+8	249	BE	ENDGS
138		ST	9,DATA+16	250	LA	6,1(7)
139		B	FORMAT	251	LR	7,6
140	NO	CLI	MAX,X'02'	252	B	NEXTC
141		BNE	NONE0	253	ENDGS	SR 7,6
142		MVI	DATA+8,X'0C'	254	ST	6,DATA+16
143		LA	4,NOT0	255	STC	7,DATA+8
144		B	FORMAT	256	LM	5,8,SAVS8
145	NONE0	MVI	DATA+8,X'0D'	257	BR	10
146		LA	4,NONE0B	258		
147		ST	4,DATA+16	259	FORMAT	CLI DATA+9,X'00'
148		B	FORMAT	260	LINE	BE
149	*			261	MVC	TEXT(14),FONT
150	LINE8	MVI	MAX+3,X'03'	262	MVC	TEXT+14(4),BOLD
151		B	L7L8	263	MVC	TEXT+16(20),FP
152	*			264	MVI	LEN,X'00'
153	LINE9	CLI	0(4),C','	265	MVI	LEN+1,X'26'
154		BE	NTAKN	266	BAL	10,OUTPUT
155		CLI	0(4),C'0'	267	*	
156		BE	NTAKN	268	LINE	SR 6,6
157		MVI	DATA+8,X'02'	269	SR	7,7
158		LA	4,1(4)	270	IC	6,DATA+2
159		ST	4,DATA+16	271	STC	6,TEXT
160		B	FORMAT	272	CLI	DATA+4,X'00'
161	NTAKN	MVI	DATA+8,X'09'	273	BE	TXT
162		LA	4,NTAKEN	274	IC	6,DATA+4
163		ST	4,DATA+16	275	A	6,POSN
164		B	FORMAT	276	A	6,ADRTEXT
165	*			277	IC	7,DATA+6
166	LINE10	CLI	0(4),C','	278	BCTR	7,0
167		BNE	FORMAT	279	STC	7,MOVH+1
168		MVI	DATA+8,X'07'	280	SR	8,8
169		LA	4,UNKN	281	SR	9,9
170		ST	4,DATA+16	282	IC	9,DATA+3
171	*			283	BCTR	9,0
172	LINE11	CLI	0(4),C','	284	M	8,=F'24'
173		BNE	FORMAT	285	A	9,TYPES
174		MVI	DATA+8,X'04'	286	MOVH	MVC 0(0,6),0(8)
175		LA	4,NONE	287	*	
176		ST	4,DATA+16	288	TXT	CLI DATA+8,X'00'
177		B	FORMAT	289	BE	OUTL
178	*			290	SR	6,6
179	LITHOL	SR	6,6	291	SR	7,7
180		SR	7,7	292	IC	6,DATA+5
181		LA	8,STRING	293	A	6,POSN
182		LR	9,8	294	A	6,ADRTEXT
183		LA	4,LDATA	295	IC	7,DATA+8
184		CLC	0(3,4),BLANK	296	BCTR	7,0
185		BE	NOPER	297	STC	7,MOVH+1
186		MVC	0(3,8),LDATA	298	L	9,DATA+16
187		MVI	3(8),C',%	299	MOVH	MVC 0(0,6),0(8)
188		MVI	4(8),C','	300	*	
189		LA	8,5(8)	301	OUTL	LA 9,2(7,6)
190	NOPER	MVI	DATA+1,X'6'	302	S	9,ADRTEXT
191		LA	4,LDATA+3	303	STH	9,LEN
192		BAL	10,GETSTR	304	BAL	10,OUTPUT
193		IC	6,DATA+8	305	*	
194		BCTR	6,0	306	CLI	DATA+9,X'00'
195		STC	6,MOVHDD+1	307	BE	NEXT
196		L	4,DATA+16	308	MVC	TEXT(14),FONT
197	MOVHDD	MVC	0(0,8),0(4)	309	MVC	TEXT+14(6),MEDIUM
198		LA	8,1(6,8)	310	MVC	TEXT+20(20),FP
199		MVI	0(8),C','	311	MVI	LEN,X'00'
200		LA	8,1(8)	312	MVI	LEN+1,X'28'
201		MVI	DATA+1,X'05'	313	BAL	10,OUTPUT
202		LA	4,LDATA+4	314	B	NEXT
203		BAL	10,GETSTR	315	*	
204		IC	6,DATA+8	316	OUTPUT	LA 1,PTXT
205		BCTR	6,0	317	L	15,=V(WRITE)
206		STC	6,MOVLIT+1	318	BALR	14,15
207	MOVLIT	MVC	0(0,8),0(4)	319	MVI	TEXT,C','
208		LA	6,1(6,6)	320	MVC	TEXT+1(128),TEXT
209		SR	8,9	321	BR	10
210		STC	8,DATA+8	322	*	
211		ST	9,DATA+16	323	FIN]	L 13,4(13)
212		B	FORMAT	324	LM	14,12,12(13)
213	*			325	SR	15,15
214	GETSTR	STM	5,8,SAVS8	326	BR	14
215		CLI	0(4),C','	327	*	
216		BNE	NOTBLNK	328	PTEXT	DC A(TEXT)
217		LA	5,1	329	DC	A(LEN)
218		B	GETS	330	DC	A(MODO)
219	NOTBLNK	SR	5,5	331	DC	A(LNUM)
220		IC	5,0(4)	332	DC	A(UNIT)
221		CLI	DATA+1,X'0E'	333	DC	F'0'
222		BE	INCS	334	DC	F'0'
223		STC	5,DATA+10	335	DC	F'6'
224		NI	DATA+10,X'0F'	336	*	
225		IC	5,DATA+10	337	ADRTEXT	DC A(TEXT)
226		LA	5,2(6)	338	LEN	DC H'0'
227	INCS	SR	6,6	339	*	
228	GETS	IC	6,DATA+1	340	BLANK	DC C',
229		SLL	6,2	341	FONT	DC C'\$**\$FONT=1200.'
230		LA	6,TYPES(6)	342	BOLD	DC C'BOLD
231		L	6,0(6)	343	MEDIUM	DC C'MEDIUM
232		S	5,=F'2'	344	FP	DC C'.12.FIXED.PORTRAIT 1'
233				345		



346	UNKN	DC	C'unknown'	458	END	
347	NDTO	DC	C'not observed'	459	CSECT	
348	NDNEOB	DC	C'none observed'	460	DC	F'4'
349	NTAKEN	DC	C'not taken'	461	DC	C' ,'
350	NDNE	DC	C'none'	462	DC	C' ,'
351	*			463	DC	C'outcrop,'
352	MAX	DC	F'O'	464	DC	C'open pit,'
353	NUM	DC	D'O'	465	DC	C'adit,'
354		DC	F'O'	466	DC	C'trench,'
355	PDSN	DC	F'11'	467	END	
356	*			468	CSECT	
357	TYPES	DC	V(TITLES)	469	DC	F'3'
358		DC	V(WAYUP)	470	DC	C' ,'
359		DC	V(DCTYPE)	471	DC	C'none,'
360		DC	V(SCTACT)	472	DC	C'transitional,'
361		DC	V(FOSILS)	473	DC	C'abrupt,'
362		DC	V(LITHOL)	474	DC	C'erosional,'
363		DC	V(MDIFIER)	475	END	
364		DC	V(SRTING)	476	CSECT	
365		DC	V(WEATHR)	477	DC	F'5'
366		DC	V(BTHKNS)	478	DC	C'none observed,'
367		DC	V(GRSIZE)	479	DC	C'none observed,'
368		DC	V(DSPRSN)	480	DC	C'molluscs,'
369		DC	V(STRUCT)	481	DC	C'plant remains,'
370		DC	V(RSMPL)	482	DC	C'stems,'
371		DC	V(COLORS)	483	DC	C'roots,'
372	*			484	DC	C'trace fossils,'
373	SAV58	DS	4F	485	END	
374	STRING	DS	20F	486	LITHOL	CSECT
375	LDATA	DS	2F	487	DC	F'9'
376	DATA	DS	5F	488	DC	C' ,'
377	SAVE	DS	18F	489	DC	C'shale,'
378	TEXT	DS	33F	490	DC	C'claystone,'
379	END			491	DC	C'mudstone,'
380	INDEX	CSECT		492	DC	C'siltstone,'
381		DC	X'148040010E1D0E00'	493	DC	C'sandstone,'
382		DC	X'1080600201000800'	494	DC	C'conglomerate,'
383		DC	X'30004E00000A0007'	495	DC	C'bentonite,'
384		DC	X'1080600301001000'	496	DC	C'coal,'
385		DC	X'40004E000012002B'	497	DC	C'carbonate,'
386		DC	X'500EF007041C0D34'	498	DC	C'ironstone,'
387		DC	X'500E4008041C1137'	499	END	
388		DC	X'200A4009041C0B30'	500	MDIFIER	CSECT
389		DC	X'2007400A041C0831'	501	DC	F'9'
390		DC	X'2009400B041C0E33'	502	DC	C' ,'
391		DC	X'2008400C041C1532'	503	DC	C'shaley,'
392		DC	X'700C400D041C173A'	504	DC	C'silty,'
393		DC	X'1080600401001000'	505	DC	C'sandy,'
394		DC	X'60004E000012003D'	506	DC	C'pebbly,'
395		DC	X'200BF006041C0B3F'	507	DC	C'boulder,'
396		DC	X'500E4007041C0D47'	508	DC	C'calcareous,'
397		DC	X'500E4008041C114A'	509	DC	C'dolomitic,'
398		DC	X'200A4009041C0B42'	510	DC	C'carbonaceous,'
399		DC	X'2007400A041C0843'	511	DC	C'fossiliferous,'
400		DC	X'2009400B041C0E45'	512	DC	C'siliceous,'
401		DC	X'2008400C041C1544'	513	END	
402		DC	X'700C400D041C174D'	514	SRTING	CSECT
403		DC	X'1080600401001000'	515	DC	F'3'
404		DC	X'60004E0000120050'	516	DC	C' ,'
405		DC	X'200BF006041C0B52'	517	DC	C' ,'
406		DC	X'500E4007041C0D5A'	518	DC	C'poor,'
407		DC	X'500E4008041C115D'	519	DC	C'moderate,'
408		DC	X'200A4009041C0B55'	520	DC	C'well,'
409		DC	X'2007400A041C0856'	521	END	
410		DC	X'2009400B041C0E58'	522	WEATHR	CSECT
411		DC	X'2008400C041C1557'	523	DC	F'3'
412		DC	X'700C400D041C1760'	524	DC	C' ,'
413		DC	X'1080600501000D00'	525	DC	C' ,'
414		DC	X'1600F00E040D0809'	526	DC	C'recessive,'
415		DC	X'16004E0F1721090F'	527	DC	C'moderately recessive,'
416		DC	X'14004E102B360A15'	528	DC	C'resistant,'
417		DC	X'2003F011041C1721'	529	END	
418		DC	X'A4004012041C1719'	530	GRSIZE	CSECT
419		DC	X'20024013041C0D22'	531	DC	F'6'
420		DC	X'20014014041C0708'	532	DC	C' ,'
421		DC	X'B4004015041C101D'	533	DC	C' ,'
422		DC	X'80044016041C1027'	534	DC	C'very fine,'
423		DC	X'200D4017041C1C26'	535	DC	C'fine,'
424		DC	X'80004018041C0723'	536	DC	C'medium,'
425		END		537	DC	C'coarse,'
426	TITLES	CSECT		538	DC	C'very coarse,'
427		DC	C'OUTCROP NUMBER:'	539	DC	C'extremely coarse,'
428		DC	C'Horizon:'	540	END	
429		DC	C'Major lithology:'	541	DSPRSN	CSECT
430		DC	C'Minor lithology:'	542	DC	F'5'
431		DC	C'Outcrop data:'	543	DC	C' ,'
432		DC	C'Dispersion:'	544	DC	C' ,'
433		DC	C'Fresh colour:'	545	DC	C'dispersed,'
434		DC	C'Weathered colour:'	546	DC	C'top,'
435		DC	C'Grain size:'	547	DC	C'middle,'
436		DC	C'Sorting:'	548	DC	C'bottom,'
437		DC	C'Bed thickness:'	549	DC	C'interbedded,'
438		DC	C'Weathering character:'	550	END	
439		DC	C'Sedimentary structures:'	551	BTHKNS	CSECT
440		DC	C'Easting:'	552	DC	F'7'
441		DC	C'Northing:'	553	DC	C' ,'
442		DC	C'Elevation:'	554	DC	C' ,'
443		DC	C'Stratigraphic contact:'	555	DC	C'thinly laminated,'
444		DC	C'Stratigraphic distance:'	556	DC	C'thickly laminated,'
445		DC	C'Outcrop type:'	557	DC	C'very thinly bedded,'
446		DC	C'Way up:'	558	DC	C'thinly bedded,'
447		DC	C'Airphoto number:'	559	DC	C'medium bedded,'
448		DC	C'Fossils present:'	560	DC	C'thickly bedded,'
449		DC	C'Rock sample:'	561	DC	C'very thickly bedded,'
450		DC	C'Photos:'	562	END	
451		END		563	STRUCT	CSECT
452	WAYUP	CSECT		564	DC	F'8'
453		DC	F'2'	565	DC	C' ,'
454		DC	C'unknown,'	566	DC	C' ,'
455		DC	C'unknown,'	567	DC	C'cross bedding,'
456		DC	C'right way up,'	568	DC	C'graded bedding,'
457		DC	C'overtured,'	569	DC	C'contorted bedding,'



570		DC	C'flute casts,'	682	DC	C'pinkish grey,'
571		DC	C'ripple marks,'	683	DC	C'light brownish grey,'
572		DC	C'flame structures,'	684	DC	C'brownish grey,'
573		DC	C'mudcracks,'	685	DC	C'brownish black,'
574		DC	C'load casts,'	686	DC	C'yellowish grey,'
575		END		687	DC	C'light olive grey,'
576	RSMPLE	CSECT		688	DC	C'olive grey,'
577		DC	F'1'	689	DC	C'olive black,'
578		DC	C'not taken,'	690	DC	C'light greenish grey,'
579		DC	C'not taken,'	691	DC	C'greenish grey,'
580		DC	C'yes,'	692	DC	C'dark greenish grey,'
581		END		693	DC	C'greenish black,'
582	COLORS	CSECT		694	DC	C'light greenish grey,'
583		DC	F'115'	695	DC	C'greenish grey,'
584		DC	C' ,'	696	DC	C'dark greenish grey,'
585		DC	C' ,'	697	DC	C'greenish black,'
586		DC	C'greyish pink,'	698	DC	C'bluish white,'
587		DC	C'pale red,'	699	DC	C'light bluish grey,'
588		DC	C'greyish red,'	700	DC	C' ,'
589		DC	C'blackish red,'	701	END	C'medium bluish grey,'
590		DC	C'moderate pink,'			
591		DC	C'moderate red,'			
592		DC	C'dusky red,'			
593		DC	C'light red,'			
594		DC	C'moderate red,'			
595		DC	C'very dark red,'			
596		DC	C'greyish orange pink,'			
597		DC	C'pale red,'			
598		DC	C'greyish red,'			
599		DC	C'very dusky red,'			
600		DC	C'moderate orange pink,'			
601		DC	C'pale reddish brown,'			
602		DC	C'dark reddish brown,'			
603		DC	C'moderate reddish orange,'			
604		DC	C'moderate reddish brown,'			
605		DC	C'greyish orange pink,'			
606		DC	C'pale brown,'			
607		DC	C'greyish brown,'			
608		DC	C'dusky brown,'			
609		DC	C'moderate orange pink,'			
610		DC	C'light brown,'			
611		DC	C'moderate brown,'			
612		DC	C'moderate brown,'			
613		DC	C'light brown,'			
614		DC	C'very pale orange,'			
615		DC	C'pale yellowish brown,'			
616		DC	C'dark yellowish brown,'			
617		DC	C'dusky yellowish brown,'			
618		DC	C'greyish orange,'			
619		DC	C'moderate yellowish brown,'			
620		DC	C'pale yellowish orange,'			
621		DC	C'dark yellowish orange,'			
622		DC	C'yellowish grey,'			
623		DC	C'light olive grey,'			
624		DC	C'olive grey,'			
625		DC	C'greyish yellow,'			
626		DC	C'dusky yellow,'			
627		DC	C'moderate olive brown,'			
628		DC	C'moderate yellow,'			
629		DC	C'light olive brown,'			
630		DC	C'pale greenish yellow,'			
631		DC	C'pale olive,'			
632		DC	C'greyish olive,'			
633		DC	C'moderate greenish yellow,'			
634		DC	C'light olive,'			
635		DC	C'dark greenish yellow,'			
636		DC	C'greyish yellow green,'			
637		DC	C'dusky yellow green,'			
638		DC	C'greyish olive green,'			
639		DC	C'moderate yellow green,'			
640		DC	C'pale yellowish green,'			
641		DC	C'greyish green,'			
642		DC	C'dusky yellowish green,'			
643		DC	C'moderate yellowish green,'			
644		DC	C'dark yellowish green,'			
645		DC	C'pale green,'			
646		DC	C'greyish green,'			
647		DC	C'dusky green,'			
648		DC	C'light green,'			
649		DC	C'brilliant green,'			
650		DC	C'moderate green,'			
651		DC	C'very pale green,'			
652		DC	C'pale green,'			
653		DC	C'greyish green,'			
654		DC	C'pale blue green,'			
655		DC	C'greyish blue green,'			
656		DC	C'dusky blue green,'			
657		DC	C'light blue green,'			
658		DC	C'moderate blue green,'			
659		DC	C'very pale blue,'			
660		DC	C'pale blue,'			
661		DC	C'light blue,'			
662		DC	C'moderate blue,'			
663		DC	C'pale blue,'			
664		DC	C'greyish blue,'			
665		DC	C'dusky blue,'			
666		DC	C'pale purple,'			
667		DC	C'greyish purple,'			
668		DC	C'very dusky purple,'			
669		DC	C'pale pink,'			
670		DC	C'pale red purple,'			
671		DC	C'greyish red purple,'			
672		DC	C'very dusky red purple,'			
673		DC	C'white,'			
674		DC	C'very light grey,'			
675		DC	C'light grey,'			
676		DC	C'medium light grey,'			
677		DC	C'medium grey,'			
678		DC	C'medium dark grey,'			
679		DC	C'dark grey,'			
680		DC	C'greyish black,'			
681		DC	C'black,'			





## Format of the file O/CDAT

This file contains re-formatted R1 (A field sheet) data as output from the program O/CFORM.

OUTCROP NUMBER 8

Horizon: A

Major lithology: 40% sandstone

Fresh colour:	light olive grey
Weathered colour:	greyish orange
Grain size:	medium
Sorting:	moderate
Bed thickness:	thickly bedded
Weathering character:	resistant
Sedimentary structures:	none observed

Minor lithology: 30% coal

Dispersion:	bottom
Fresh colour:	black
Weathered colour:	black
Grain size:	
Sorting:	
Bed thickness:	thickly bedded
Weathering character:	moderately recessive
Sedimentary structures:	none observed

Minor lithology: 30% carbonaceous mudstone

Dispersion:	top
Fresh colour:	moderate brown
Weathered colour:	dark grey
Grain size:	fine
Sorting:	well
Bed thickness:	
Weathering character:	moderately recessive
Sedimentary structures:	none observed

Outcrop data:

Easting: 98287      Northing: 36830      Elevation: 4454

Stratigraphic contact:	abrupt
Stratigraphic distance:	unknown
Outcrop type:	open pit
Way up:	right way up
Airphoto number:	44
Fossils present:	plant remains
Rock sample:	not taken
Photos:	not taken



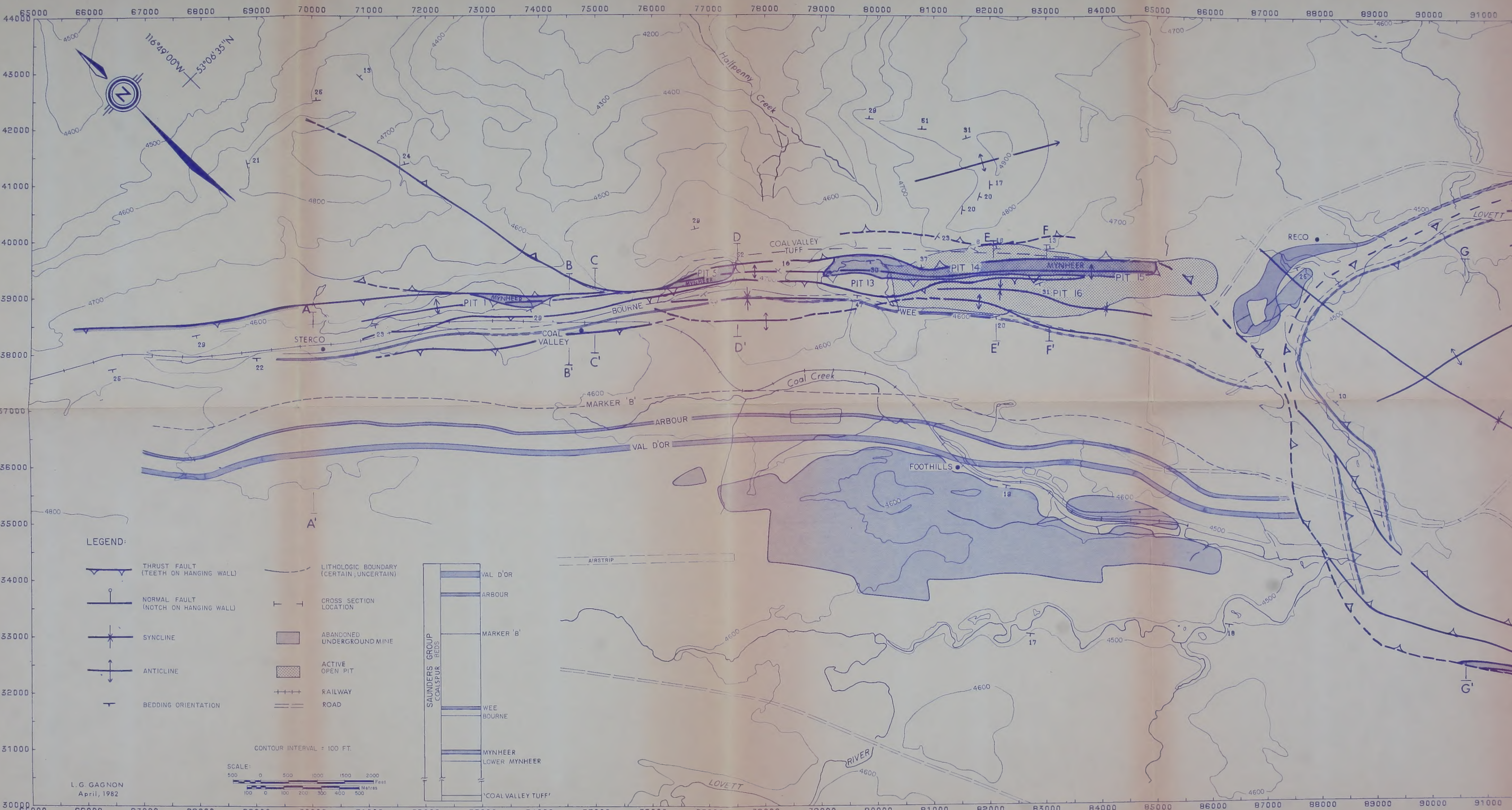












L.G. GAGNON  
April, 1982



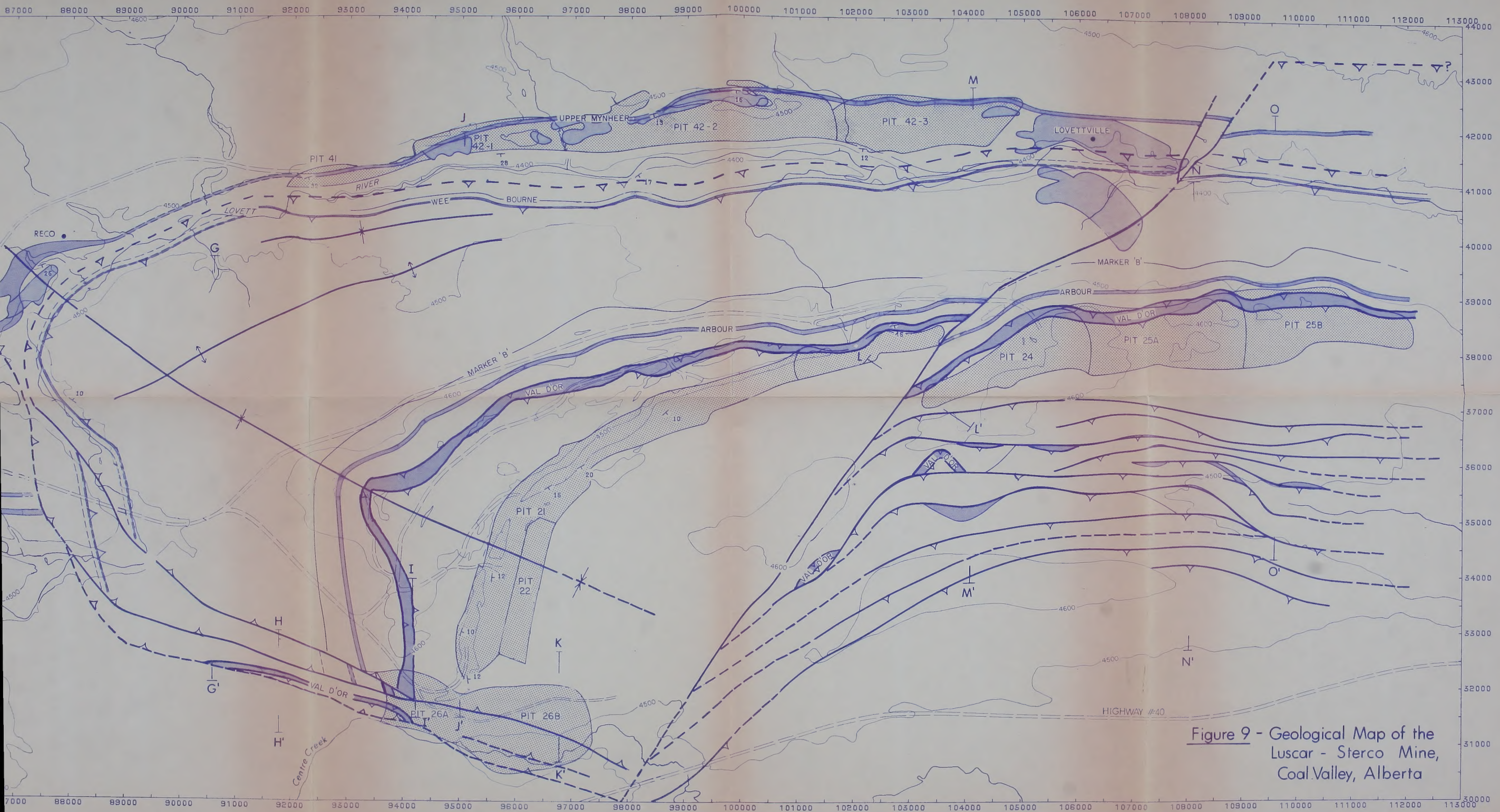


Figure 9 - Geological Map of the  
Luscar - Sterco Mine,  
Coal Valley, Alberta



**B30332**